

His success as a club owner is evidenced by the headliners he booked: Nat "King" Cole, Sammy Davis, Jr., Count Basie, Lionel Hampton, R&B acts like the Treniers, Brook Benton, Sam Cooke, and Jackie Wilson, and jazz diva Dinah Washington. While Mr. Roberts focused primarily on black acts, he would make exceptions for people like Tony Bennett and Gene Krupa.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Roberts' pioneering spirit wasn't limited to the musical sphere. In fact, he was the first entertainment business owner to give the famed Dick Gregory a chance when he hired him as a late-night emcee at the Herman Roberts Show Lounge in Chicago in 1958. In the political realm, his motel served as the original meeting place for another pioneer when he hosted Chicago Mayor Harold Washington's initial campaign.

In short, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Roberts' venues served as the epicenter for Chicago's Black civil society and he served as the Godfather of Chicago's Black entertainment industry.

Finally, after decades of hard work, Mr. Roberts retired in 1992 and still, today, maintains his home on Chicago's Southside.

Mr. Speaker, clearly Mr. Roberts is an accomplished individual and we, in Chicago, are proud to call him one of our own. I am delighted to congratulate my longtime friend and supporter, Mr. Herman Roberts, on this important achievement. On behalf of all my constituents in the 1st Congressional District of Illinois, I extend my heartfelt congratulations.

CONGRATULATING WAUKEGAN TO COLLEGE (W2C)

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2017

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Waukegan to College (W2C) Program for its recent selection as an exemplary organization for promoting Latino success in higher education by Excelencia in Education.

This is a true honor, and the staff, volunteers, students, and families of Waukegan to College should be very proud.

Waukegan to College demonstrates how community support, resources, and encouragement can help students achieve their dreams of attending and graduating college.

Through services such as tutoring, mentoring, college and scholarship application coaching, and advising sessions that include parents, Waukegan to College equips students with the tools they need to succeed not just in higher education, but in life.

This prestigious award is a testament to their commitment to the youth of Waukegan. The time, effort and energy that they invest in this program do not go unnoticed—and sets a national example of the impact that a community-based organization can make.

I congratulate the team at Waukegan to College on this impressive accomplishment, and thank them for all they do to make a difference in the lives of our youth.

HONORING TERESA P. PEREZ

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2017

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Weslaco, Texas native, Mrs. Teresa P. Perez, who is celebrating her 80th birthday.

Born on October 14, 1937, she has been a pillar in the community. Mrs. Perez has resided in Weslaco since 1938 and been a lifelong member of St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church.

Mrs. Perez has held many successful roles throughout her life but none more important than those to her family as a daughter, sister, mother and grandmother.

Mr. Speaker, I again offer my congratulations to Mrs. Perez and her family: Cindy, Tommy, Louie, Rose, Arturo, Terry Ruben, Mike, Andrew, Cathy, Danny, and all 20 of her beloved grandchildren. Mrs. Perez and her family have made South Texas a better place, and it is my honor to acknowledge her today and wish her a very happy birthday.

HONORING REVEREND SAMUEL E. GASKINS, SR.

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2017

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Reverend Samuel E. Gaskins, Sr. for his tireless dedication to improving the lives of residents in my district.

Born in Lake City, South California in 1937, Rev. Gaskins enlisted in the United States Army at the age of fifteen. By the age of seventeen he was promoted to Staff Sergeant and later a Chief Petty Warrant Officer, a testament to his innate leadership skills. After twenty four years of military service, including two tours as a chaplain in Vietnam, Rev. Gaskins settled in Seaside, California where he continued serving the public. In the late 1990s, the United States Army donated the former Fort Ord's Army chapel to Rev. Gaskins. Through tireless work, he restored and converted the building into the Christian Memorial Tabernacle's chapel still in use to this day.

Rev. Gaskins' efforts to improve the lives of his fellow citizens extend far past the walls of his church. Rev. Gaskins has founded numerous organizations and initiatives aimed at helping those in our community who are most in need. One such program is a new homeless ministry named "The Stepping Stone Outreach Program." Rev. Gaskins' five year program aims to provide housing and education for over 500 people in need. I commend Rev. Gaskins for his dedication to caring for those in my district who need help the most.

Apart from his work to care for the less fortunate, Rev. Gaskins has worked to foster solidarity and strong relationships among communities in my district. One such initiative is "One Great Fellowship," which he created in conjunction with Jason Harbert of the Carmel Presbyterian Church. One Great Fellowship aims to promote racial harmony between communities on the Monterey Peninsula. The pro-

gram, which involves multiple Peninsula churches, has held several interracial and interdenominational services per year which regularly drew hundreds of people.

Rev. Gaskins has proven himself to be a natural leader in service to his country and community. His life's work adds up to nothing short of transforming the lives of the residents of the Central Coast. We are lucky to have someone as selfless and dedicated as Rev. Gaskins call the 20th district home. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing Rev. Samuel E. Gaskins, Sr. for his many accomplishments and contributions to the betterment of his community, country, and fellow man.

HONORING THE CAREER OF DR. JEROME E. JACKSON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2017

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Dr. Jerome Jackson, professor of Criminology at California State University, Fresno. Dr. Jackson has had a remarkable career, spanning over 30 years. He is a renowned criminologist, author and lecturer known for his work for various civil rights causes.

Dr. Jerome Jackson was born in Texas before relocating to California. He earned his Bachelors in Arts in Political Science from Southern University in Baton Rouge Louisiana, a Master's in Public Administration from Texas Southern University and a Doctor of Philosophy in Criminal Justice from Sam Houston State University. Currently, Dr. Jackson is the first and only African American born in the state of Texas to graduate from the distinguished Ph.D. program at Sam Houston State University. He also holds a Masters in Theological Studies and Doctorate in Theological Studies from the Faith Seminary in Tacoma, Washington.

Currently, Dr. Jackson is a tenured Full Professor of Criminology at California State University, Fresno. During his tenure at Fresno State he took on a number of roles. This includes serving as the president of the Black Faculty and Staff Association and chairing the Martin Luther King Monument Statute Committee, helping to raise over \$75,000.00. His work has been well recognized and he has received a number of honors throughout his career. This includes the Provost's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1998. His outstanding work has also been recognized by the cities of Fresno and Clovis.

Mr. Speaker, it with great pleasure that I ask you to join me in celebrating the career of Dr. Jerome E. Jackson. I wish Dr. Jackson and his family continued success and happiness going forward.

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF ZF
FRIEDRICHSHAFEN IN GAINESVILLE

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2017

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my hometown in celebration of ZF, one of the top automotive suppliers in the world. For thirty years, this company has been a part of our Hall County, and I commend the city of Gainesville for establishing September 23 as "ZF Day."

When ZF opened its first North American production facility on Palmour Drive back in 1987, no one could predict the impact that this company would have on our community in northeast Georgia. What began as one location and a few jobs quickly grew to more than 50 locations and 31,900 jobs across North America.

Hall County alone is now home to four production facilities and over 1,000 employees representing ZF.

The Greater Hall County Chamber of Commerce played a significant role in bringing this company to Georgia and helping them achieve success. I want to thank them for all of their hard work.

Mr. Speaker, I take pride in the number of international companies, like ZF, that have chosen to invest in my home state over the last several decades. These companies have provided many neighbors with careers and the means to pursue their dreams.

I wish the company well as it continues to expand and create more opportunities for hard-working men and women.

TRIBUTE TO VICTIMS OF THE LAS
VEGAS MASSACRE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2017

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to residents of California's 42nd Congressional District who were tragically killed during the massacre at the Route 91 Harvest country music festival in Las Vegas, Nevada on Sunday, October 1, 2017.

Thomas Day, Jr. was born and raised in my hometown of Corona, California. After graduating from Corona High School, Tom attended Riverside Community College and later went to work for Portrait Construction, a home building company founded by his father, Tom Sr. Those who worked with Tom knew him as someone who was easy to talk to and get along with. The Day family has been active in our community for many years, making a number of important contributions to non-profit organizations. Attending concerts and music festivals with his children was a win-win for Tom because it allowed him to do two things he loved at one time—listen to music and spend time with his family. Tom was attending the Route 91 Harvest country music festival with his children when he was senselessly taken from us.

Rocio Guillen grew up in Anaheim, California and attended Katella High School,

where she ran track and cross country. Most recently, she worked as an assistant manager at a California Pizza Kitchen. Rocio was a tireless worker both at her job and at home caring for her children. She was blessed with four children: 18-year-old Marcus, 13-year-old Christopher, 1-year-old Sofia and 1-month-old Austin. Marcus recently described Rocio as "an amazing mother. She worked so many hours at work and would come back and take care of all of us." Rocio's fiancé, Chris Jaksha, attended the Route 91 Harvest country music festival with her and comforted her in those terrifying final moments of her life.

Pati Mestas lived in Menifee, California and was a graduate of Garey High in Pomona. While she previously helped manage the deli at a Corona gas station, Pati recently stopped working to spend more time with her three children, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Pati loved going to country music concerts and having a good time with her friends. Her son Brandon wrote, "She left this world surrounded by friends, singing and dancing with thousands of people. If I had to write the script myself, I could not have done a better job."

Christopher Roybal proudly served his country in the U.S. Navy as a dog handler, completing multiple tours in Afghanistan. After leaving the Navy, Chris returned home to Corona, California, and managed Crunch Fitness gyms. According to family and friends, Chris loved to sing and enjoyed all genres of music—they say he was a karaoke king. Chris is survived by his wife Dixie Roybal, his mother Debby Allen, father Samuel Roybal brothers Jacob, Jayson and Nicholas, and sisters Nina and Jillian. We are eternally grateful for Chris' service to our nation.

Our hearts ache for all of those whose lives were cut short and forever impacted by the evil acts of that evening. We pray that their loved ones, colleagues and friends find comfort in the memories shared with those we have lost. We also pray for the speedy recovery of all of the wounded. As a country we must stand together in the wake of this horrific event and demonstrate that the love, decency and compassion inside all of us is far stronger than any evil act.

CELEBRATING THE CITY OF BELLFLOWER'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2017

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I, along with Representative SÁNCHEZ, rise today to recognize the City of Bellflower on its 60th anniversary. We hope our colleagues will join us in paying tribute to the city and its residents.

The City of Bellflower was incorporated in 1957 after a measure to do so was endorsed by most of the civic organizations in town and supported by the local newspaper. Several of the supporting groups that played a critical role at the time still exist today, including the Bellflower Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis Club, Masonic Temple, and Bellflower Woman's Club. At the time of incorporation, Bellflower was already a 51-year-old community, fully matured in all areas but that of city government.

Over the years, Bellflower has become a vibrant city with an innovative approach to enhancing services and generating revenues to support its growing community. There has been a long tradition of implementing programs that uphold the mission of the city, which is "to protect and enrich the quality of life, to make Bellflower an excellent place to live, work, and play." Bellflower places a high value on programs that attract new businesses, provide recreation activities and community services, preserve the environment, and protect the safety of city residents.

Through fiscal conservatism and the establishment of a redevelopment strategy, the city continues to grow and expand by attracting new businesses, improving business facades, and upgrading infrastructure. Since 2011, as a result of these strategies, Bellflower has seen more than \$60 million of direct investment into its community. This includes the construction of Auto Zone, Biomat USA, and Kaiser Permanente offices, as well as unique restaurants like Golden Corral and Fronk's.

More recently, the city has placed a high priority on economic development and the revitalization of its downtown area. The new Bellflower Events Center and Los Angeles County Fire Museum will open in mid-November, and they are destined to become centerpieces of the resurgence and redevelopment of the city. The Events Center will provide an elegant indoor and outdoor venue for small groups, gatherings and larger parties, while the Fire Museum will house a tremendous display of Los Angeles County Fire Department history.

The city is also excited to welcome SteelCraft, with its rapidly growing reputation as a unique dining and social experience, into Downtown Bellflower. A lease was recently approved by Bellflower's City Council for SteelCraft to develop its third shipping container retail park on a 15,000 square foot city-owned lot located on Bellflower Boulevard and Oak Street. SteelCraft will perfectly complement Bellflower's unique retail stores and delicious home-grown restaurants.

Capital improvements have also been at the top of Bellflower's priorities. With the completion of the Bellflower Boulevard Pedestrian Enhancement Project in July of 2016, Bellflower's streets, sidewalks, and crosswalks have undergone immense improvements, adding to the beautification and safety of its downtown area.

We hope our colleagues will join us in sending their best wishes and congratulations to the City of Bellflower on its 60th anniversary. Let us salute its optimistic spirit, and its commitment to embracing the future through smart investments, innovation, and creativity.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MORRISTOWN & MORRIS TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY'S WILLIS WING

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2017

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Morristown & Morris Township Public Library's Willis Wing, located in Morristown, New Jersey on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary.