

HONORING MAYOR WILLIAM D. TATE'S GOLDEN JUBILEE OF SERVICE

HON. BETH VAN DUYNÉ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNÉ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Honorable William D. Tate as he celebrates his Golden Jubilee of service to the City of Grapevine, Texas.

A native of Grapevine, Mayor Tate grew up along the city's historic Main Street and developed a deep appreciation for its heritage, character, and people. For more than fifty years, he has served his community with steadfast leadership, integrity, and an unwavering commitment to preserving the qualities that make Grapevine unique.

Throughout his distinguished tenure, Mayor Tate has played an instrumental role in protecting Grapevine's historic charm while thoughtfully guiding its growth into the vibrant and thriving community it is today. His leadership has encouraged economic development, strengthened civic pride, and helped establish Grapevine as a destination recognized throughout Texas and beyond.

In addition to his service as Mayor, William D. Tate is a respected attorney, historian, and storyteller whose knowledge and passion have enriched the cultural fabric of Grapevine. As one of the longest-serving mayors in the United States, his remarkable legacy reflects a rare and enduring dedication to public service.

Mayor Tate's Golden Jubilee represents far more than a milestone of years served. It is a celebration of a lifetime devoted to the citizens of Grapevine and of the profound impact his leadership has had on the identity and success of the city.

I congratulate Mayor Tate on his Golden Jubilee and thank him for his extraordinary service and enduring commitment to the Grapevine community.

HONORING LYMA DUNBAR AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2026

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lyma Dunbar as a Distinguished Leader in Central Florida for Caribbean Heritage Month. Lyma Dunbar is the host of the talk show "The People's Chat Room," which has been on the Central Florida airwaves for the past 14 years. Also, from August 2022 to May 2023, she hosted "Caribbean Straight Talk," which focused on the Caribbean Diaspora within Florida.

Lyma uses her radio platform to encourage guests to share their challenges and successes while educating listeners on health and wellness and local and national current affairs. She also invites community leaders and politicians to share and discuss their portfolios and disseminate pertinent information. Over the years, she has expanded her platform to host town halls that encourage voters to share their

concerns and give state and local politicians an opportunity to present their campaign portfolios and respond to the concerns of Central Floridians.

Lyma is also the editor-in-chief of iChunes Entertainment Magazine, a digital publication that offers a look into the lives, journeys, and musical success of some of the Caribbean's biggest artists, some of whom reside in Central Florida. She also writes the primary features, and some of the supplemental articles, which feature Caribbean history, immigration concerns, health, wellness, and more.

Along with Tishard Birmingham, the producer of the talk show "The Peoples Chat Room," Lyma hosts and performs in "Comedy Calypso Caribbean Jazz," which is in its fourth year and hosts the free event, "A Caribbean Heritage Affair," in downtown Orlando to encourage the public to interact and enjoy the culture of the Caribbean. This event is in its first year.

In addition, she has been a clinical therapist serving the mental health needs of Central Florida residents for over 17 years.

HONORING TODEC AND CHIRLA

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2026

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor TODEC and the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA) to commend their patriotism for assisting immigrant communities by promoting U.S. citizenship and teaching English literacy skills for naturalization purposes ahead of our Nation's 250th birthday.

TODEC was founded in the 1980s by Luz Maria and Antonia Ayala. The two were new Americans who were previously involved with the Michoacan, Mexico community and the United Farmworkers and Civil Rights Movement in Los Angeles. Once they were ready to grow their family, they settled in the Inland Empire to build a new home.

In the Inland Empire, the two witnessed their neighbors facing many injustices including being profiled by police and immigration enforcement, mistreated by employers, and ignored by politicians.

They founded TODEC with the mission of empowering underserved communities to become economically, socially, educationally, and civically self-sufficient while boosting individual self-esteem and community well-being throughout the Inland Empire.

TODEC achieves its mission by providing access to information through legal services, community education, advocacy, and civic engagement for individuals with limited English-speaking skills, including immigrants and migrant workers.

In 1986, TODEC successfully fought for the passage of an immigration bill that granted amnesty to nearly 3 million new Americans. While this was only one of their first organizing wins, it helped set the foundation for decades of advocacy, including voter mobilization initiatives and letter-writing campaigns where TODEC youth shared their experiences navigating struggles as undocumented Americans.

Just like TODEC, the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles, or CHIRLA,

has championed services that support immigrant communities throughout the Inland Empire and beyond. First founded as a nonprofit organization in 1986, CHIRLA's mission was to ensure immigrants and refugees had support and protection, and they advanced immigrant-rights initiatives in the United States.

For more than 40 years, CHIRLA worked with people both inside and outside of immigrant communities to strengthen democracy in a world where democratic values often fail to extend to our most vulnerable.

From the late 1980s to today, CHIRLA has fought for progressive values in the Los Angeles region by helping open labor centers, fighting against California Proposition 187, which would have denied education and other services to undocumented immigrants, and bringing forth the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act in the House of Representatives.

In September 2023, under the Biden-Harris Administration, the Department of Homeland Security awarded a \$450,000 grant to CHIRLA to assist them with providing services that help with citizenship instruction and naturalization services. Despite the Trump administration's decision to cut \$100,000 from the grant in 2025, CHIRLA's motivation did not dwindle; they continue to uplift immigrant communities in Los Angeles, and support policies that promote human, civil, and labor rights for everyone.

For decades, CHIRLA has led immigration leaders in the United States, and particularly the Los Angeles region, to fight for justice and equal opportunity for all Americans, not just a select few. Their efforts in California and beyond have not gone unnoticed.

Both CHIRLA and TODEC have been incredible partners with my office. They have aided many of my constituents, helping them navigate our broken immigration system and much more. For their commitment to helping immigrant communities in California and beyond, it is my privilege to honor both TODEC and CHIRLA. Their patriotism and commitment to championing immigrant rights is worthy of the highest commendation.

CELEBRATING THE CONGRESSIONAL FOSTER YOUTH SHADOW DAY AND THE FOSTER YOUTH INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2026

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate two important efforts that connect current and former foster youth with federal policymakers—Foster Youth Shadow Day hosted by the National Foster Youth Institute in collaboration with the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth, and the Foster Youth Internship Program hosted by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute in collaboration with the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Caucus. These groundbreaking programs provide foster youth the opportunity to bring their lived experiences to Capitol Hill by shadowing Members of Congress and advocating for federal child welfare policy. One of the greatest honors and the greatest challenges of my service in Congress has been listening to

youth who experienced foster care, learning from them, and trying to make sure we do better in the future.

Foster Youth Shadow Day is the culmination of a week-long program designed for young people with lived experience to advocate for federal child welfare policy. The youth receive training about how to share their experiences with policymakers to make child welfare laws better. The program concludes with the annual Foster Youth Shadow Day when the youth meet with and follow legislators. The 2026 program marked the 16th Foster Youth Shadow Day. I have appreciated the opportunity to listen to the ideas and concerns of the many young professionals connected with me during Foster Youth Shadow Day. This year, 41 delegates from across the Nation participated in this important initiative.

I am very proud to serve as one of the Co-Chairs of the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Caucus—often known as the Adoption Caucus—that has consistently saved as the voice for the needs of children who require safe, nurturing, and permanent families both in the United States and around the world for 40 years. The Caucus collaborates with the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute to host the Foster Youth Internship Program. This competitive and rigorous program places youth in Congressional offices, educates them on federal policy and advocacy, requires interns to produce a published Congressional policy report that includes their recommendations, and culminates in a Congressional briefing on their work. I have had the privilege of hosting many FYI interns in my office over the years. I know first-hand that their ideas have translated into important legislation and laws to make life better for youth. Now in its 23rd year, this internship continues to provide young people with lived experience meaningful opportunities to share their stories, engage in federal policy advocacy, and contribute substantive policy research.

According to federal Administration on Children and Families, there were 331,747 children in foster care in the U.S. during 2025. Although family reunification remains the primary goal of the child welfare system, many children spend years in care due to a range of complex circumstances. This issue is deeply important to me, and I have dedicated much of my work to advancing significant change. I have served as the senior Democrat on the Subcommittee with jurisdiction over child welfare within the Committee on Ways and Means for almost 10 years. Some of my proudest accomplishments during my 30-year tenure in Congress include helping children and families by strengthening them so that they do not enter care, helping them get the support and services needed to home safely or to join a new loving family, and to help older youth who age out of care obtain the resources need to transition successfully into independence.

I am proud to work alongside organizations such as the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute, the National Youth Institute, the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Caucus, and the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth to elevate lived experience voices and advance federal child welfare policy. As the youth say, “Nothing about us without us.”

HONORING CLARENCE DUNKLEY
AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN
CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIB-
BEAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2026

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Clarence Dunkley as a Distinguished Leader in Central Florida for Caribbean Heritage Month. Originally from Jamaica, Clarence Dunkley has proudly called America home for more than 32 years. Throughout those years, he has dedicated his life not only to the construction industry, but also to uplifting others through humanitarian service and community leadership.

Clarence is widely respected for his generosity, compassion, and commitment to giving back. Through his nonprofit organization, he has helped provide housing and support for veterans, ensuring those who served our country are not forgotten. His impact reaches far beyond his profession, as he continually works to strengthen and support the community around him.

Despite building a successful life in the United States, Clarence has never forgotten his roots. He frequently returns to Jamaica to give back to communities in need, reflecting his deep passion for humanitarian work and his dedication to helping others both locally and internationally.

Clarence Dunkley exemplifies the spirit of Caribbean Heritage Month through his leadership, service, cultural pride, and unwavering commitment to making a difference in the lives of others.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF DAVID H. HENDERSON, JR.

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2026

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life and legacy of David H. Henderson, Jr., a beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, Marine, attorney, and faithful servant of God whose life was defined by service, integrity, humility, and love.

David Henderson dedicated his life to serving his country, his community, and his family. While many knew him for his distinguished career in the United States Marine Corps and the Department of Justice, those closest to him knew him as something even greater, a devoted husband and father, a trusted mentor, a man of deep faith, and someone who quietly made the lives of others better every day.

Born to David H. Henderson, Sr., a retired United States Air Force Major, and Florence Steciak Henderson, David grew up in Oklahoma, earning the rank of Eagle Scout before graduating from Del City High School. Even at a young age, he displayed the leadership that would define his life, serving as president of both his junior and senior classes and captain of the debate team.

David attended the University of Oklahoma on an ROTC scholarship, where he excelled both academically and in the military. Upon

earning his bachelor's degree, he received the Marine Corps Sword as the top Marine graduate in his class. Following Officer Candidate School, the Marine Corps selected him to attend the University of Oklahoma College of Law. There, he graduated with honors and was inducted into the prestigious Order of the Coif, an honor reserved for the Nation's finest law students.

Over the course of a distinguished twenty-year career in the United States Marine Corps, David served as a military attorney, handling numerous nationally significant cases. Among the most notable was his representation of Sergeant Clayton Lonetree in the espionage case later chronicled in Rodney Barker's *Dancing with the Devil*. Barker described David as a laid-back Oklahoman who appeared more interested in hunting and fishing than courtroom battles, cautioning readers that “it was a mistake to underestimate him.” Beneath that easygoing demeanor was a brilliant legal mind, sound judgment, and quiet confidence that earned the admiration of colleagues and opponents alike.

David also successfully represented Douglas Beane, a Vietnam-era serviceman who returned after two decades away in hopes of seeing his dying father. Later, he represented a Marine captain at Guantanamo Bay in a case that would eventually inspire the film *A Few Good Men*.

In 1989, David was selected to serve as the military escort for James Pierce, the brother of First Lady Barbara Bush, during the Presidential inaugural festivities. He retired from the Marine Corps in 1990 as a Major.

His commitment to justice did not end with military service. After retiring from the Marine Corps, David became the first Public Defender appointed to serve the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, along with the surrounding counties of Stafford, Spotsylvania, and King George. In 1992, he joined the Office of the United States Attorney under U.S. Attorney Bob Wortham and faithfully served for two decades as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Texas.

Yet David would have been the first to say that his greatest accomplishments were never the titles he held or the cases he argued.

He believed deeply in hard work, personal responsibility, and treating every person with dignity and respect. He had little interest in accolades for their own sake. Instead, he measured success by the quality of one's work, the strength of one's character, and the impact one had on the lives of others. Those values guided every aspect of his life.

Whether building a family home with his own hands, tending a garden, caring for livestock, or mentoring his children, David believed that anything worthwhile required effort. He taught his family that no job was beneath them and that honest work, done well, was among life's greatest virtues.

At the center of David's life was his beloved wife, Lois. He often remarked that he was the luckiest man in the world and never quite understood how someone as wonderful as Lois had chosen him. Their marriage was marked by unwavering love, enduring friendship, steadfast faith, and complete devotion. Together, they built a home filled with laughter, compassion, and example, teaching their children and grandchildren what a faithful and loving marriage looks like.

David also had a lifelong love for his Britany bird dogs. He spent countless hours