

For over 50 years, Mr. Rendón captured reflections of the soul of a people whose music, food and daily activities connect the past with the present and future.

A San Antonio native, Mr. Rendón developed an interest in photography from an early age. His mother shared her love for photography with him, and after she gave him her camera, the city quickly became his muse. As a student at Central Catholic High School, his passion grew, joining the school's yearbook staff and covering live concerts. Following graduation, Mr. Rendón pursued his passion and launched a career that would document iconic moments in the history of South Texas.

Early in Mr. Rendón's career, he began making a name for himself in shooting rock concerts held at San Antonio's HemisFair Arena and Municipal Theater. After a decade in the rock scene, Mr. Rendón was recruited by the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center to photograph several of their cultural events and Conjunto Festival. It was at these events that in 1986 Mr. Rendón pivoted his focus to capturing the Mexican American community of Texas.

In doing so, Mr. Rendón reconnected with his culture and was placed on a path that has helped others do the same. He focused on documenting the legacy of the spirit of Mexican Americans in Texas. He has created exhibitions of Conjunto and Tejano artists, portraits of cultural leaders, representations of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Charreada photos, and more. Mr. Rendón's cultural focus has led to his work being held at the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery, the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, and the Mexican American Museum of Art in Chicago.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating Mr. Rendón's extraordinary career. It is through his lens that stories of passion, determination, and community are preserved. He is leaving behind a powerful legacy for future generations to broaden their understanding of the world.

HONORING THE LIFE, SERVICE AND LEGACY OF CALVIN "CAL" HOBBS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 27, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life, legacy, military service and historic contributions of Calvin "Cal" Hobbs, a native of Winona, Mississippi, a distinguished member of the Tuskegee Airmen, and a proud American whose life was devoted to service, excellence, and inspiring future generations.

Calvin "Cal" Hobbs was born on August 26, 1923, in Winona, Mississippi. In 1944, he enlisted in the United States Army Air Corps aviation cadet program in Omaha, Nebraska, and was subsequently assigned to first African-American Aviation Mechanics class at Amarillo Army Air Base.

Mr. Hobbs distinguished himself through determination, discipline, and an exceptional work ethic. He eventually earned an assignment to the 477th Bomber Squadron, which was attached to the 99th Fighter Squadron. His military career advanced rapidly, and he

achieved the ranks of Sergeant, Technical Sergeant, Master Sergeant, and ultimately Chief Master Sergeant. The Mississippi Legislature recognized his advancement and accomplishments in House Concurrent Resolution No. 78, adopted in 2018.

Chief Master Sergeant Hobbs' service included completing Aerial Gunnery School and serving in important maintenance and leadership positions. He served as Line Chief with the 99th Fighter Squadron and the 332nd Fighter Group and became Crew Chief of a KC-135 aerial refueling aircraft at Mather Air Force Base. He also served as Flight Chief, Line Chief, and NCOIC Maintenance Control at Mather Air Force Base.

After 20 years of service in the United States Air Force, Chief Master Sergeant Hobbs retired in 1964. His commitment to service, however, did not end with his military retirement. His obituary records that he subsequently spent another 20 years with Pacific Bell, while also dedicating significant time to civic, youth, religious, and community organizations.

Mr. Hobbs was a founding member of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc.'s Sacramento/George "Spanky" Roberts Chapter. He remained deeply committed to preserving the history and legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen and became an integral member of the Tuskegee Airmen Living History Team. Through that work, he traveled to civic organizations, churches, and schools across the Nation, sharing the story of the Tuskegee Airmen and helping educate young people about aviation and science.

His commitment to young people was evident not only through his work preserving history, but also through his willingness to serve as a mentor. His message to young people was straightforward and enduring: "Always be prepared when an opportunity arises!" That simple statement reflected the discipline and perseverance that characterized his own life.

Mr. Hobbs' legacy is particularly significant because the Tuskegee Airmen represented far more than a group of military aviators. The Tuskegee experience included the pilots, mechanics, technicians, support personnel, and other servicemembers whose dedication helped establish an important chapter in American military and civil rights history. Mr. Hobbs contributed to that history through his technical expertise, military leadership, and lifelong commitment to telling the Tuskegee Airmen's story.

Beyond his military career, Mr. Hobbs devoted himself to his family and community. His obituary notes his involvement with organizations including the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., Knights of Columbus, California Civil Air Patrol, Loaves & Fishes, Boy Scouts of America, Little League Baseball, and the PTA in the Folsom-Cordova School District, where he placed particular emphasis on supporting school music programs.

On August 2, 2011, Calvin "Cal" Hobbs passed away peacefully at his home in Rancho Cordova, California, surrounded by his family. He was 87 years old. His passing marked the loss of a remarkable Mississippian and American, but his contributions to his country, his community, and the preservation of the Tuskegee Airmen legacy continue to be remembered.

Calvin "Cal" Hobbs demonstrated throughout his life what can be accomplished through

preparation, perseverance, service, and a commitment to helping others. From his service in the United States Army Air Corps and Air Force to his work as a member of the Tuskegee Airmen community and his efforts to educate young people, he dedicated himself to making a lasting difference.

His story is a reminder that the preservation of history is also an investment in the future. By sharing the experiences and accomplishments of the Tuskegee Airmen, Mr. Hobbs helped ensure that future generations would understand the sacrifices, determination, and excellence that helped expand opportunities for African Americans in military service and throughout American society.

I am proud to honor Chief Master Sergeant Calvin "Cal" Hobbs, a native son of Mississippi, a veteran of the United States Air Force, a Tuskegee Airman, a mentor, and a devoted servant of his community.

May his life continue to inspire young Americans to prepare themselves for opportunity, pursue excellence, serve their communities, and never allow adversity to define what they can accomplish.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and enduring legacy of Calvin "Cal" Hobbs and in expressing our gratitude for his honorable service to the United States of America.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOVANA KARNOVIC

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 27, 2026

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jovana Karnovic—a distinguished researcher whose life and work shaped the academic communities that have had the esteemed privilege of working with her. Jovana strived to make the world we live in a fairer and better place, dedicating her 35 years of life to continuous work, learning, and diligent research. Beyond Jovana's impressive professional and academic achievements, she was someone you could rely on. Jovana was not only a dedicated academic and researcher, but a loving partner, colleague, and friend to all those whom she left an impact on.

At the age of 18, Jovana left her life in Northern Serbia and moved to the United States for a chance to achieve her American Dream. Jovana went on to attend Fullerton College, where she not only left a lasting presence on those around her but chose to thrive academically. Jovana left such an impact that, in 2012, she was named the college's top speaker and honored with a commemorative plaque in recognition of her lasting achievements. Jovana graduated from Fullerton college with honors.

Following her graduation from Fullerton College, Jovana continued to fulfill her desire to learn, earning her BS, MS, and PHD degrees respectively. Soon after, Jovana founded 'Reshaping Work', where she connected thousands of professionals and established 100+ partnerships around the globe. Jovana's legacy continues in the work and achievements that she poured her heart into, and the countless lives that she has touched. Jovana will be remembered as a shining light, who made it

her mission to make those around her feel seen, uplifted, and inspired.

Jovana's memory will live with us all. We thank her for a life filled with compassion, a willingness to learn, and dedication for helping those around her.

THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF VICTOR BACH

HON. RITCHIE TORRES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 27, 2026

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Victor Bach, a pioneering housing advocate, researcher, educator, and tireless champion for New Yorkers who spent his life fighting for affordable housing, stronger public housing, and economic justice.

Victor Bach passed away on June 4, 2026, at the age of 93. Born in Brooklyn, Mr. Bach dedicated his professional life to public service and housing advocacy. He earned a Ph.D. in Urban Planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and served on the faculties of the University of Texas and The New School for Social Research before beginning his extraordinary tenure at the Community Service Society of New York.

Beginning in 1983, Mr. Bach spent approximately four decades directing housing research and advocacy at the Community Service Society, where he became one of New York City's most respected and influential voices on affordable housing. For 35 years, he served as a senior housing analyst and Director of Housing Policy at CSS, the Community Service Society of New York.

Throughout his career, Mr. Bach produced groundbreaking research on homelessness, housing affordability, rent burdens, and the challenges facing low-income New Yorkers. His work also documented the devastating consequences of government disinvestment in the New York City Housing Authority and helped bring greater attention to the urgent needs of public housing residents.

But Victor Bach's legacy cannot be measured solely by the reports he authored or the policies he influenced. He understood that housing policy must ultimately serve the people who call our communities home. He provided technical assistance to resident and community organizations and helped empower public housing residents to organize, advocate, and demand the resources necessary to preserve their homes and communities.

Mr. Bach was also a mentor to generations of housing researchers and advocates. His colleagues at the Community Service Society have recognized the profound influence he had on those who followed him, helping develop some of New York's leading housing policy experts. His commitment to mentoring others ensured that his work would continue long after his retirement.

For decades, Victor Bach reminded policymakers that affordable housing is not simply a matter of bricks and mortar. It is about dignity. It is about stability. It is about giving families the opportunity to remain in the communities they call home. And it is about recognizing that every New Yorker deserves a safe and affordable place to live.

This message carries particular significance in the Bronx and throughout New York City, where working families, seniors, and low-income residents continue to confront extraordinary housing costs and persistent threats of displacement. The fight for affordable housing that Victor Bach championed remains as urgent today as ever.

Victor Bach leaves behind a remarkable legacy of scholarship, advocacy, mentorship, and public service. His work strengthened the movement for affordable housing and gave a stronger voice to those too often left out of policy discussions.

On behalf of the people of the 15th Congressional District of New York, I extend my deepest condolences to Mr. Bach's children, grandchildren, family, friends, colleagues, and the many New Yorkers whose lives and communities were touched by his extraordinary work.

Victor Bach dedicated his life to the belief that housing is a fundamental pillar of a just society. We honor his memory by continuing the work to which he devoted his life: building a New York where every person, regardless of income, has access to a safe, stable, and affordable home.

May his memory be a blessing, and may his life's work continue to inspire the fight for housing justice for generations to come.

HONORING AMANDA PERNA

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 27, 2026

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Amanda Perna—an accomplished fashion designer, author, and community leader—and to recognize her as a finalist in the Verizon Small Business Super Pitch Competition. Amanda was one of only four finalists to compete in the Super Pitch and win tickets to the World Cup Final.

In 2012, Amanda founded House of Perna, a sustainable fashion brand based in Delray Beach. Over the past fourteen years, she has built one of South Florida's most recognizable independent fashion labels through creativity, entrepreneurship, and an unwavering commitment to giving back. Under her leadership, House of Perna has supported more than 250 nonprofit organizations through charitable donations, mentorship, educational workshops, fundraising initiatives, and community partnerships. From advancing literacy and youth development to empowering women, supporting healthcare initiatives, and promoting the arts, Amanda has used her business as a powerful force for positive change throughout Palm Beach County.

Amanda's dedication to serving others extends far beyond her business. She serves on the boards of the YMCA of South Palm Beach County, Achievement Centers for Children & Families, and the Delray Beach Chamber Advisory Board, reflecting her belief that opportunity, education, and creativity should be accessible to everyone. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Amanda partnered with Hearst Publications to create free sewing tutorials and patterns that helped people make protective face coverings. She also serves as co-chair of

Laugh with the Library, raising critical funds to expand literacy programs, and chairs Making Strides Against Breast Cancer, inspiring community support for women and families affected by breast cancer.

Amanda exemplifies the very best of community leadership through her compassion, generosity, and entrepreneurial spirit. She has demonstrated that business success and civic engagement go hand-in-hand, creating lasting opportunities for others while strengthening the fabric of our community.

Please join me in recognizing Amanda Perna for her outstanding contributions to Palm Beach County. I thank Amanda for her extraordinary service to South Florida and wish her continued success in all her future endeavors.

REAFFIRMING THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM AND THE UNITED STATES

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 27, 2026

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my resolution reaffirming the enduring partnership between the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) and its eighteen members and the United States toward stability, prosperity and peace in the Pacific, and expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States will continue to remain a strong, reliable and active partner in advancing a peaceful, resilient and prosperous Blue Pacific.

The PIF is the Pacific Islands region's premier political and economic policy organization, bringing together 18 member countries and four associate members to advance shared priorities across the Blue Pacific. The Forum provides an important platform for Pacific Island countries and territories to work collectively on regional security, disaster resilience, economic development, ocean governance and other issues that directly affect the people of the Pacific.

The United States has longstanding ties with the PIF and the Pacific Island countries it represents. The United States has been a PIF Dialogue Partner since 1989, and our relationship is grounded in shared interests and longstanding connections across the Pacific. The United States is itself a Pacific Nation, home to millions of people with Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander heritage, and our Pacific territories of Guam and American Samoa are Associate Members of the PIF. We also share close relationships with the Freely Associated States through the Compacts of Free Association.

Our interests in the Pacific are clear. The United States and the PIF share a commitment to maintaining a peaceful and secure region, strengthening economic opportunity, responding to natural disasters, protecting our oceans and supporting a free and open Pacific. Strong engagement with the PIF is an important part of advancing these shared priorities while respecting Pacific leadership and the sovereignty of Pacific Island nations.

One of the PIF's principal annual gatherings is the PIF Leaders Meeting, where Pacific