

Over the past six and a half decades, Hexagon has brought laughter and music to the District. This non-profit, volunteer-based company was founded in 1965 by several members of the Princeton all-male Triangle Club, who changed the group's name to Hexagon, representing the group's growth and inclusion of women.

Each year, Hexagon puts on a show and donates proceeds, sometimes as large as \$30,000, to charities, many located in D.C. Last year, the company donated to Dancing Classrooms of Washington, D.C., a local arts education program focused on teaching social-emotional skills to fifth graders through dance. The proceeds of this year's 65th anniversary show, entitled "One State Two State Red State Blue State," will go to SMYL, a non-profit organization serving LGBTQ youth in D.C.

Although all the performers are volunteers, Hexagon is a show of professional quality that sells out to packed-houses of residents from D.C. and the region. I have had the honor of performing with the company, along with several other Members of Congress, over the years, including Senator CHRIS VAN HOLLEN and Congresswoman DONNA SHALALA.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Hexagon for working to improve the lives of D.C. and regional residents through laughter and charity. As we honor the company's 65 years in District of Columbia, we can only wish for many more.

**RECOGNIZING MR. RAY WALKER
FOR AN OUTSTANDING COACH-
ING CAREER**

HON. MO BROOKS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Ray Walker for his induction into the Alabama Baseball Coaching Association Hall of Fame.

Ray was born in 1946 in Anniston, Alabama. At two years old, his family moved to Huntsville. Ray was a part of the first graduating class at Lee High School, in 1964. At Lee, Ray played baseball, basketball, and football. Upon graduation, Ray attended William Carey College before transferring to Florence State (UNA), where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 1968. In 1970, Ray received a master's degree in Physical Education (PE) and Administration from Athens State College.

In 1968, Ray began teaching Biology and PE at Chapman Junior High School, where he coached baseball, basketball, and football. In 1975, Ray transferred to Grissom High School to become a driving instructor. At Grissom, Ray took on two head coaching positions: baseball and freshman football. Ray remained in these two positions until his retirement in 2000.

As the head Freshman Football Coach, Ray's teams won 102 games and eight city championships. Ray served as Grissom's Head Baseball Coach for 25 years, where he led his team to 389 wins. Sixty-eight of the players from his program went on to play in college and three went into the minor leagues. In total, Ray's teams won nine city champion-

ship titles and advanced to the final four during the state baseball playoffs in 1982 and 1991. Ray's Grissom High Baseball team won the 6A State Baseball Championship in 1989. Ray was chosen several times as Huntsville City Coach of the Year in baseball. In 1989, Ray was chosen as Coach of the Year for the State of Alabama. During the last 20 years of his baseball coaching career at Grissom High School, his team made the state playoffs 18 times. In 2004, Ray was inducted into the Huntsville Madison County Sports Hall of Fame for his many achievements.

Ray served in the Army Reserve from 1970 to 1998 and retired as a Master Sergeant. He recalls that as a young man many people had significant influences in his life but none greater than his uncle, Oba Belcher. Ray followed his uncle's career at Athens College with intense interest as he coached many outstanding basketball teams. Ray observed that his uncle always set his standards high, out-worked other teams, and projected a positive attitude through his coaching. Oba was a wonderful role model and mentor, especially when Ray began his coaching career.

After teaching and coaching for 46 years in the Huntsville City Schools, Ray retired, or so one thought. Ray's retirement from the school system led to what was the beginning of his new career as the owner and operator of Coach Walker's Driving School. Ray jokes that because the word "retirement" is not in the Bible, you need to keep on working. Truth be told, he loves what he has felt he was lead to do, and is continuing to fulfill his life's work by teaching and coaching today's young people.

**HONORING MR. JUAN LINO
RAMIREZ**

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to wish Mr. Juan Lino Ramirez, a beloved public servant and successful businessman from South Texas, a very special 85th birthday.

Mr. Ramirez was born on January 20, 1935, and dedicated his life to serving others while successfully creating multiple businesses. Juan Lino's contributions to Jim Hogg County and South Texas have been significant, and I am honored to be able to stand here today and share those achievements with my colleagues and the citizens of the United States of America.

Juan Lino started his career like many other Americans, with a small business. When Juan Lino was in his mid-twenties, he opened up his first business, a small car repair shop called T&R Auto Repair Shop. He ran and worked at the shop until he was able to move onto more lucrative business opportunities. In 1967, Juan Lino decided to obtain a Used Car Business Dealer License, which he later used to become one of the best salesmen in South Texas, winning the "Dealer of the Month" award from the San Antonio Auto Auction. Juan Lino acknowledged his business acumen but humbly decided to take a different career path and serve the people of South Texas.

In his twenties, Juan Lino took an interest in Jim Hogg County's public education system

and served on the Independent School District Board. There, he expanded educational opportunities for all students in the district, facilitated a vision for the future of the Jim Hogg Independent School District, and served as a role model to all that knew him in the community.

After serving on the Jim Hogg County Independent School District Board, Juan Lino decided to serve his community in a new capacity by taking on the highest law enforcement post in Jim Hogg County: Sheriff. Juan Lino served as the Jim Hogg County Sheriff twice, first from 1970 to 1973 and then again from 1976 to 1980. During his time as Sheriff, he hired the first female Sheriff Deputy in Jim Hogg County's history, Vila Martinez, acquired the first computer for the Sheriff's Department, and introduced standardized Sheriff Deputy uniforms. These accomplishments helped transform the Jim Hogg County Sheriff's Department into the modern and professional unit it is today. Juan Lino also successfully created one-way streets in school zones to ensure the safety of students on their commutes to and from school as the Sheriff of Jim Hogg.

Juan Lino continued to give back to Jim Hogg County in the 21st Century, serving as the County Commissioner for Precinct 4 for two terms. The first term was from 2002 to 2006, and the second term was from 2011 to 2015. During his time as County Commissioner for Precinct 4, Juan Lino worked to better the lives of people on a daily basis through infrastructure, economic development, and housing projects. I cannot imagine Jim Hogg County without Mr. Ramirez. He helped shepherd the Sheriff's Department into a new era, expanded women's opportunities, enhanced student safety, successfully grew his businesses, and accomplished many more milestones.

Madam Speaker, on January 20, 2020, Mr. Juan Lino Ramirez turns 85. I stand here today to acknowledge the decades of service Mr. Ramirez has given to Jim Hogg County. Mr. Juan Lino Ramirez serves as a leader in our community, and I wish him a very happy birthday.

**CONGRATULATING CONGRES-
SIONAL AWARD RECIPIENT NICO-
LAS MABIE**

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Ms. SPANBERGER. Madam Speaker, Central Virginia is home to some of the most community-centered and service-minded students in the country, and today I am fortunate to recognize one of these students as a recipient of the Congressional Award.

Nicolas Mabie, a constituent of mine from Moseley, earned this national recognition for his work in community service, personal development, physical fitness, and exploration of the world around him.

Nicolas's community service centered on volunteering for his community swim team. Through this activity, he helped kids learn a life-long and life-saving skill. He has demonstrated an ability to set goals, make a strategy, and see it through to the end.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Nicolas on his accomplishments. I look forward to seeing