

one of the greatest entertainers of our time. Known for his silky-smooth vocals and electrifying showmanship, Gerald was adored the world over and will truly be missed. He was a son of the 11th Congressional District of Ohio.

Born in Philadelphia on July 13, 1966 and raised in Cleveland, Gerald is the son of legendary singer Eddie Levert of The O'Jays and Martha Levert. Gerald was exposed to music at an early age, traveling with his father's band regularly. While attending Shaker Heights High School, Gerald formed the group LeVert along with his brother Sean and friend Mark Gordon. The group would go on to record seven albums, four of which were certified platinum. The albums yielded such memorable hits as "Pop, Pop Goes My Mind," "Casanova," and "ABC-123."

In 1991, Gerald launched his solo career with the album *Private Line* which went on to be #1 on the R&B charts. It was during this time that he began writing and producing songs for other artists including Stephanie Mills, James Ingram, Teddy Pendergrass, and even The O'Jays. Gerald earned a Grammy nomination for his work on Barry White's 1995 hit "Practice What You Preach," and helped launch the careers of many Cleveland-area R&B groups including Men At Large and the Rude Boyz.

Some of Gerald's most memorable works were his collaborations with his father Eddie Levert. In 1992 they recorded the #1 R&B single "Baby Hold On To Me" and later in 1995 recorded the album *Father & Son* which topped the R&B charts. Gerald and Eddie allowed the old school generation and the hip-hop generation to have a meeting of the minds that ultimately produced beautiful music for all to enjoy.

Affectionately known as the "teddy bear" of the music industry, Gerald carried himself with a gentle kindness. He always would greet you with a smile and was a friend to all he encountered. News reports of Gerald's death talked about his recent trip to South Africa with his father. They reported that he and his father were well received throughout the country and treated like kings. Gerald was our king and his legacy of love and zest for life will forever live in our hearts.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States and the citizens of the 11th Congressional District of Ohio, I would like to offer my sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Gerald Levert. On a personal note, I cherish the times I was in cities when he was on the road and Gerald recognized me as his Congresswoman and gave me my own teddy bear. I also will never forget the last time we spent together in New York during the induction of The O'Jays into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE GEORGE P.
KAZEN

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Judge George P. Kazen as a recipient of the 2006 Longhorn Legacy Awards, given to him on October 5th, 2006 by the Laredo Chapter of the University of Texas Ex-Students Association.

Judge Kazen received his law degree with honors from the University of Texas School of Law in 1961, and thus began a long, accomplished career in law. Shortly after graduation, he served a term as a briefing attorney for the Texas Supreme Court, entered the United States Air Force as a JAG officer, and was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal in 1965. He returned back to the city of Laredo in 1965 where he practiced law until he was appointed by President Jimmy Carter to become United States District Judge in 1979 for the Southern District of Texas. The Southern District of Texas includes divisions in Houston, Galveston, Victoria, Laredo, Corpus Christi, McAllen, and Brownsville. Judge Kazen also is a member of the FISA Court based in Washington, DC.

He has received a number of accolades and awards such as the Dean Leon Green Award from the Texas Law Review Association in 1998, the Samuel Pessarar Award for Outstanding Jurist from the Texas Bar Association in 2004, and the Mr. South Texas Award in 2000. He is extensively involved in several legal and civic organizations such as the Fifth Circuit District Judges' Association, the Laredo Civic Music Association, the Boys and Girls Club of Laredo, and the St. Augustine-Ursuline Board. He served as a member of the Laredo Community College Board of Trustees from 1972 to 1979 and has lectured at various legal and judicial seminars throughout the country.

Judge Kazen has been married to the wonderful Barbara Ann Kazen for 44 years since 1962 and has four children and seven grandchildren. He is a member of the Blessed Sacrament Church, where he is president of the Parish Council and is a lector and eucharistic minister.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the dedication of Judge George P. Kazen to the city of Laredo and to promoting the University of Texas at Austin as one of its most accomplished alumni members.

A TRIBUTE TO CARL JAMESON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Carl Jameson, a distinguished citizen of Brooklyn, NY. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding man and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive service.

Mr. Jameson retired after 24 years of service as a police officer with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. He served in the United States Marine Corps from 1960 to 1970. While serving, Mr. Jameson was called upon to provide instruction and enlist men in the physical therapy programs. Mr. Jameson was also heavily involved with the All-Marine Judo Team. He toured 22 countries as captain of the team and received his second degree black belt in 1969. For the past 18 years, Mr. Jameson has been participating in the New York State Police Olympics. He has won several bronze and silver medals for cycling and track and field. In 1974, Mr. Jameson started the Union United Methodist Self Defense School. By 1985, he had awarded 150 black

belts to students. This community outreach program was started to foster good minds and strong bodies for local youth. Mr. Jameson currently serves as the Imperial director of the Imperial Bicycle Department of the Prince Hall Masonic Temple.

Mr. Jameson is currently employed as a customs enforcement officer with the United States Customs Border Protection. He has also volunteered extensively with the Federal Emergency Management Agency on search and recovery missions. Mr. Jameson has worked in the Disaster Recovery Centers of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

Born in Brooklyn, NY, Carl Jameson is a product of the New York public school system and he remains a part of the Brooklyn community today. Mr. Jameson received his associate in applied science degree in physical therapy from LaGuardia Community College and his bachelor of arts degree from the College of New Rochelle. He also did post-baccalaureate work at Queens College.

Mr. Jameson is a member of Greater Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, where he serves as a trustee and member of three choirs. Mr. Jameson has been married to his lovely wife Ella for the past 43 years and is the proud father of four.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the work of Carl Jameson. His deep commitment to service and community makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

HONORING THE FRANK LLOYD
WRIGHT PRESERVATION TRUST

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust. The American Association of Museums recently conferred accreditation on the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust. Accreditation is a prestigious honor; it is the highest national recognition of a museum's commitment to professional museum standards, accountability, public service, and excellence in education.

The Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust works tirelessly to preserve both Wright's home and studio as well as the Frederick C. Robie House, arguably one of Wright's most significant architectural works. Frank Lloyd Wright was one of the most influential architects of the 20th century and one of the most prominent American architects of all time. The Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust provides a great service to the people of my congressional district, the Seventh District of Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, I once again would like to extend my sincerest congratulations and thanks to the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust for all of their hard work and recent accreditation.

IN HONOR OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF LEGAL SERVICES OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an organization with a distinguished history of community service to the Sacramento capital region. Legal Services of Northern California is celebrating 50 years of providing free legal services to the low-income residents of Sacramento County and 22 other counties in Northern California. As the staff and supporters of Legal Services of Northern California gather to celebrate this momentous milestone, I ask all my colleagues to join me in saluting one of Sacramento's most important and respected organizations.

In 1956, Legal Services of Northern California, then known as the Legal Aid Society of Sacramento County, was born out of the insight of prominent members of the Sacramento Bar Association and a budget of \$12,000. With the assistance of volunteer pro bono attorneys and a staff consisting of one part-time attorney and one social worker, the Legal Aid Society of Sacramento County finished its first year having provided assistance to nearly 2,900 low-income clients.

From these humble beginnings 50 years ago, the Legal Aid Society has grown significantly. In 1967, the organization began to expand its services beyond Sacramento County and opened offices in Yolo County. By the late 1970s, the Legal Aid Society of Sacramento County had acquired a state-wide reputation for resolute and effective advocacy on behalf of the poor and disabled, and had won significant victories on behalf of its clients. To reflect its expanding geographic reach, the organization changed its name in 1979 to Legal Services of Northern California, which today operates offices serving 23 counties, with a budget of over \$7 million and a staff of over 120 employees and 1,000 volunteers.

Legal Services of Northern California has also greatly expanded its scope of services beyond providing traditional legal assistance to low-income individuals. The organization now operates the Senior Legal Hotline, the Health Rights Hotline, Ombudsman Services of Northern California, and the Disability Employment Rights Advocacy Program. As a testament to its far-reaching services, the Senior Legal Hotline fields almost 9,000 calls each year from seniors all over California. Also notable was in early 2006 when Legal Services of Northern California acquired the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program, an organization that advises thousands of seniors on the different prescription drug plans available to them under Medicare.

Mr. Speaker, for 50 years the good men and women of Legal Services of Northern California have dedicated countless hours to identifying and defeating the causes of poverty and injustice. As the staff and volunteer attorneys gather to reflect upon a half century of exemplary service to the community, I am proud to recognize such a reputable organization. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Legal Services of Northern California and wishing them many more years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ELMO LOPEZ, SR.

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Elmo Lopez, Sr., as a recipient of the 2006 Longhorn Legacy Awards, given to him on October 5, 2006 by the Laredo Chapter of the University of Texas Ex-Students Association.

Elmo Lopez, Sr. is a native of the city of Rio Grande and now currently resides in the city of Laredo in the State of Texas. He graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with degrees in music, a Bachelor of Arts in 1953 and a Masters in 1957, and thus began a long, accomplished musical career. Shortly after graduation, he worked as Band Director for the Laredo Independent School District, bringing his experience as a band member of the UT Longhorns Band to Lamar Junior High, Martin High School, and Nixon High School from 1953 to 1967. During this time, he served in several posts with the Texas Music Educators Association.

Mr. Lopez's passion for music was recognized by the Texas Legislature for promoting good will between the United States and Mexico through musical exchange programs. He also was honored in 1963 with Laredo Paso Doble, a musical composition written by Professor Clifton Williams at the University of Texas at Austin. In addition to having guest conducted the UT Longhorn Band on numerous occasions, he also conducted the United States Armed Forces band and the Special Presidential Band of Mexico.

In 1987, Mr. Lopez founded the Laredo Chapter of the UT-Exes as a way to keep the connection between the University of Texas at Austin and its alumni in the city of Laredo. He dedicated his time and energy to the University including 12 years of service on the Board of Directors of the UT Dad's Association, and was named Distinguished Alumnus in 1993 and honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Laredo UT-Exes.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the dedication of Mr. Elmo Lopez, Sr. to his music and to the community of the city of Laredo.

A TRIBUTE TO ESMERALDA BROWN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Esmeralda Brown, a distinguished citizen of Brooklyn, New York, and contributor to the world community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding woman, and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing her impressive service.

As the Resource Center Specialist for Economic and Environmental Justice at the United Methodist Office for the United Nations, Esmeralda Brown deals with issues of concern to the Women's Division constituency in the area of economics, the environment, and development. Ms. Brown has been involved in

organizing several workshops and meetings in Latin America, the Caribbean, and North America. Issues discussed include racism, militarization, and the situation of women in the Americas.

Ms. Brown is the chairperson of the United Nation's NGO committee on the International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples. Ms. Brown is also the Southern Co-Chair of the NGO Steering committee to the NGO Commission on Sustainable Development. Ms. Brown holds the chairperson position for the Southern Caucus of NGO's that form part of the Regional and National Networks on Sustainable Development in developing countries of the world. She is also the Economic and Environmental Justice Specialist at the United Methodist Office for the United Nations. Additionally, Ms. Brown is a United Nations representative for the Commission of Human Rights in Central America and the Pan African Movement for the Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).

In 1992, Ms. Brown was co-founder of the Peoples' Alliance for the Earth Summit. This organization did the preparatory work for the Non-Governmental Organizations invited to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). Ms. Brown's work has not gone unnoticed. In June 1990, she was honored by the Ecumenical Program for Inter-American Communication and Action (EPICA) in Washington for Outstanding Contributions to the Struggle for Human Rights in Central America.

Esmeralda Brown is a native of Panama, and holds a B.A. in Political Science from Hunter College of the City University of New York.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the work of Esmeralda Brown. Her deep commitment to the international community makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

HONORING THE JOHN G. SHEDD AQUARIUM

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the John G. Shedd Aquarium, the 2006 recipient of the National Award for Museum and Library Services. It comes as no surprise to me that this superior institution was selected as the recipient of this award. The Shedd Aquarium has served not only Chicago, but the entire Nation, for well over 75 years. It very much deserves our admiration and respect.

The John G. Shedd Aquarium is a world class institution that enjoys a national reputation for excellence. The Shedd Aquarium is truly the world's aquarium. In addition to being the largest indoor aquarium in the world, the Shedd was one of the first aquariums to offer an education program. Through its unique ability to make education fun, the Shedd has touched the lives of the more than 2 million of people who walk through its doors every year.

The John G. Shedd Aquarium is so much more than a museum; the scientists and staff are leaders throughout the world in research and conservation. The research initiatives that