

to learn about a specific jazz musician or topic. These conferences are attended by musicologists and music lovers from around the world. Past symposia have studied Parker, Miles Davis, and the recent revival of swing music. I encourage my colleagues to take a cyber tour of the museum at <http://americanjazzmuseum.com>.

In addition to educating its visitors, the museum has led to a revitalization of the historic area once home to several jazz clubs. The museum itself operates the Gem Theater to showcase today's up and coming musicians. There are now several other clubs and restaurants in the area, with a new commercial and residential complex scheduled to open within the next year. A once deserted urban neighborhood has returned to the days of peopled streets and late night music as a result of the success of the American Jazz Museum.

A grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the Doris Duke Foundation helped the Museum create JazzNet to establish an endowment and support organizations that preserve and present Jazz nationwide. The museum has applied for other grants for various projects including an academic analysis on the lives of jazz musicians. The study would determine working and living conditions of artists in four major cities, and the research team would identify areas in which support for jazz musicians will be most beneficial in furthering their work.

In three short years, the American Jazz Museum has become an impressive institution. It educates its visitors, entertains in its theater, analyzes the music and its musicians, and revitalized a deserted downtown area. Because of all these accomplishments, the American Jazz Museum is most deserving of special recognition from the Smithsonian Institute, and I congratulate them and wish them continuing success.

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#### TRIBUTE TO DAN SANDEL

### HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 15, 2000*

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, today we pay tribute to our friend, Dan Sandel, who will be awarded the Yitzhak Rabin Peace Award tonight by Americans for Peace Now. Dan has been chosen for this prestigious award for his many years of leadership and outstanding service in the struggle for peace in the Middle East.

Dan has not only served on the Board of Americans for Peace Now, he has served on many others including the Tel Aviv University Board and the Education for Israeli Civil Rights and Peace Board. His work to provide solutions to the Arab-Israeli conflict would certainly make the reserve officers and soldiers of the Israel Defense Forces who founded Americans for Peace Now in 1978 proud.

In addition to being a peace activist, Dan is a very successful businessman who founded Devon Industries. He not only invented and patented all of the disposable surgical equipment manufactured and distributed by Devon Industries, but he lead the company so well

that it was hailed as one of the fastest growing companies in the medical industry.

In 1994 after the devastating Northridge earthquake, Dan used his political acumen and understanding of business needs to help the Small Business Administration address the concerns of the local business community. His efforts helped effectuate a change in the law pertaining to the amount of money a business can receive for recovery from a natural disaster.

Dan is also involved with many political, community and charitable programs both in the U.S. and in Israel. The groups he has helped run the gamut from Bedouin communities in Israel to students and faculty in Malibu. He has been particularly concerned with the homeless and has even created a new program called "Fresh Start" which offers homeless people housing and jobs.

It is our distinct pleasure to ask our colleagues to join with us in saluting Dan Sandel for his outstanding achievements and to congratulate him for receiving the prestigious Yitzhak Rabin Peace Award.

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#### IN HONOR OF MARIO DE LA TORRE

### HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 15, 2000*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mario De La Torre on the occasion of his retirement after forty years as a member and leader of the Laborer's International Union of North America. Mr. De La Torre's life is an example of the American dream fulfilled and he deserves recognition for his able service to his fellow workers and the San Francisco community.

Born in Mexico, Mario came to the San Francisco Bay Area as a young man. He immigrated to America in search of the opportunity that he knew would come from hard work and determination. At first he worked a series of jobs, including as a dishwasher and a cook, but he soon found his calling in the construction trades. At age twenty-three, he joined the Laborer's International Union of North America Local 261 and went to work as Laborer for various contractors.

Mario's leadership abilities soon became clear and he rose to the position of foreman. Mario served as foreman for prominent companies where his talents drew the notice of the San Francisco Housing Authority, and he was recruited to assume a leadership role with the agency.

By 1978, Mario had firmly established himself in the community and with his fellow Laborers. Well-respected by his peers, he was appointed that year as Field Representative for Local 261. He then began a second phase of his career as a leader in San Francisco's labor community.

Over the next twenty-one years, Mario held several different positions for the laborer's Local 261, serving as an Executive Board member, a Vice-President, the Business Manager, and eventually President. In all of these capacities, he executed his duties with distinction.

As is the pattern with Mr. De La Torre's life, his able work earned him the recognition of others. In 1991 he was selected for the post of Vice-President of the San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council. In 1993, he joined the Executive Board of the Northern California District Council of Laborers and later served as Secretary/Treasurer of the Council. During this time, he also became a Trustee for the Aggregates and Concrete Association and a Delegate to the San Francisco Labor Council.

Mario is a leader within our community, serving as President of the Centro Social Obrero, as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Labor Council of Latin American Advancement, and as an Executive Board member of the Mexican-American Political Association.

Mr. Speaker, I join Mario's four sons, Mario Jr., Oscar, David, and Hugo, in wishing Mario a very happy and healthy retirement. He truly is an American hero.

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#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO GOLDY S. LEWIS

### HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 15, 2000*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, this week Goldy S. Lewis will turn 79. I salute her, and wish her a happy birthday and best wishes. Ms. Lewis is the co-founder of Lewis Homes in my district, which now goes under the name of Lewis Operating Corp., and has been active in the real estate development industry since 1955. She is still very active in the business. As we look to providing housing, it is important that we recognize the pioneering efforts of those who have sought to further the American dream of having a place of one's own. Our community is better off, because of it.

A graduate of UCLA, Ms. Lewis has received numerous honors, including American Builder Magazine 1st Award of Distinction, 1963; West End YMCA Homer Briggs Service to Youth Award, 1990; City of Hope Spirit of Life Award, 1993; Professional Builder Magazine Builder of the Year Award, co-recipient, 1988; National Housing Conference "Housing Person of the Year" Award, 1990; Entrepreneur of the Year Award, Inland Empire, 1990; Woman of the Year, California 25th Senate District, 1989; Distinguished Chief Executive Officer (with husband, Ralph M. Lewis), California State University, San Bernardino, 1991; City of Rancho Cucamonga Ralph and Goldy Lewis Sports Center, 1988; several other parks and sports fields named for the Lewises, including Lewis Park in Claremont. She has been listed in Who's Who in America (with her husband, Ralph M. Lewis), since 1980.

I have been very impressed with the extensive civic commitment of Ms. Lewis and her family. She has served on the City National Bank Advisory Board; UCLA Graduate School of Architecture and Urban Planning Dean's Council; Ralph and Goldy Lewis Hall of Planning and Development, University of Southern California; UCLA Foundation Chancellor's Associates; National Association of Home Builders, Building Industry Association of California,