

he was raised. Judge Lewis' indomitable spirit will always live here among those whom he has touched. We have been honored to have had the grace of his presence in our lives. As we stand today to celebrate the extraordinary life of this extraordinary man, I am proud to have represented such an outstanding citizen from the 26th District of Texas in the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONORING JORGE J. LAMBRINOS
FOR MORE THAN 38 YEARS OF
SERVICE ON BEHALF OF OLDER
AMERICANS AND ON THE OCCA-
SION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM
THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN
CALIFORNIA ROYBAL INSTITUTE
ON AGING

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2010

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jorge J. Lambrinos, founding director of the University of Southern California (USC) Roybal Institute on Aging, who is retiring this month after more than 38 years of working in and out of government on behalf of older Americans.

Jorge was born in Panama City, Panama and arrived to this country at the age of 11 speaking no English. He fondly recalls his first job, at age 12, shining shoes in the barber-shop where his father worked. From then on, Jorge's strong work ethic and love for our country motivated him on a non-stop mission in pursuit of the American Dream—not only for himself but for our nation's elderly as well.

Jorge first got involved in advocating for seniors as Director of Latin Americans for Social and Economic Development. There, he was instrumental in getting the City of Detroit to establish a senior center in the Latino community of southwest Detroit. Jorge's leadership in his adopted hometown led to a prestigious fellowship opportunity in our nation's capital. As one of 10 national Health, Education, and Welfare Fellows, Jorge worked under Arthur S. Flemming, the U.S. Commissioner on Aging at the Administration on Aging.

After his one-year fellowship ended, Jorge became director of the U.S. Administration on Aging's Executive Secretariat and Special Assistant to the Commissioner on Aging. During that time, as an advisor to Commissioner Flemming, Jorge played a key role in the establishment of four national minority aging organizations. He also worked to ensure that minority communities had a voice in the emerging field of gerontology.

Building on this area of expertise, in 1977, Jorge joined my father, Congressman Edward R. Roybal, as Director of the Subcommittee on Housing and Consumer Interests of the House Select Committee on Aging. During that time, Jorge guided the development of the Congregate Housing Services legislation signed into law by President Jimmy Carter, which authorizes all Sec. 202 senior housing to provide temporary supportive services to ailing residents. When my father became chair of the full Committee on Aging, Jorge served as the full committee's staff director—becoming one of the first Latino staffers to hold such a position.

Several years later, Jorge then moved on to become my father's Chief of Staff. Together, they worked to address many critical priorities for older Americans, including the availability of congregate meals and stepping up research initiatives into the aging process as well as Alzheimer's disease and diabetes. Jorge is particularly proud of his work with my father to strengthen the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Jorge was integral in the formation of the Roybal Institute on Applied Gerontology. In my father's last few years in office, seniors from East Los Angeles petitioned California State University Los Angeles to establish an endowed chair in Congressman Roybal's name. Jorge's strategic recommendations resulted in the establishment of the Edward R. Roybal Foundation and the creation of the Institute.

After my father's retirement in 1993, Jorge joined him at Cal State Los Angeles and became the first full time director of the Roybal Institute. He was responsible for the management of several health promotion and disease prevention projects, including a collaborative research project with the CDC to determine the levels of older adult vaccinations in the Latino community of East Los Angeles. He also collaborated with USC's Alzheimer's Disease Research Center to translate findings from its clinical trials research to community application. In addition, Jorge was the Principal Investigator of a project funded by the Association of Teachers of Preventive Medicine to develop interventions to reduce the incidence of falls and injuries among older adults. Jorge moved with the center from Cal State LA to its new home at the University of Southern California in 2006.

Jorge Lambrinos has received numerous awards and appointments, including being named as one of the "Top 100 Most Influential Hispanics in the U.S." by Hispanic Business Magazine. He has served as a member of the National Advisory Council of the National Institute on Aging, the California Commission on Aging and the Executive Council of AARP California, where he continues to serve as health policy advisor.

In addition to his work in public service, Jorge's dedication to our country is also evident through his distinguished military service. A graduate of the U.S. Army War College and a decorated Bronze Star Gulf War veteran, Jorge retired as a Lt. Colonel after 27 years of military service.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in recognizing Jorge's long record of service to our country. His significant contributions have made life healthier and more just for older Americans from all walks of life and I wish him many more years of fulfillment and success in retirement.

SALUTING ELDER GOLDWIRE
MCLENDON, PHILADELPHIA'S
PREMIER GOSPEL SINGER

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2010

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, an incredibly talented Gospel singer from Philadelphia has been sharing his gift with a national audience through "Sunday Best," the BET network's closely watched gospel singing competition.

The results were announced this Sunday, and our own Elder Goldwire McLendon was selected as runner-up to a young lady from Florida, LeAndria Johnson. Elder McLendon's many, many fans in Philadelphia and across the nation may be mildly disappointed, but they are immensely proud of the man, his powerful voice and his faith.

Annette John-Hall, a talented writer for the Philadelphia Inquirer, captured the drama and the impact of this remarkable man and his quest, in her column in today's newspaper. I share her column and extend my congratulations to this Philadelphia Gospel superstar.

[From the Philadelphia Inquirer, June 22, 2010]

AT 79, ELDER MCLENDON SHARES THE GIFT OF
HIS VOICE

(By Annette John-Hall)

All you have to do is watch the audience react to Elder Goldwire McLendon every time he sings to understand the profound impact he has.

People get choked up. Some weep outright. Heck, just watching him perform on YouTube puts a lump in your throat.

See, McLendon sings gospel. And he has for, oh, 70 years, ever since he was 9 and singing in Sunday school in Jacksonville, Fla., his hometown.

He has sung in prisons, in concert halls, and at his own place of worship, Mount Olive Baptist Church in Philadelphia, where he has ministered for 40 years.

But it wasn't until McLendon decided to audition for Sunday Best, BET's gospel singing competition, that the whole nation understood just how remarkable his gift was.

At 79, McLendon was easily the oldest contestant by at least 30 years. And yes, he'd sometimes forget the lyrics.

But his life experience came through whenever he hit the stage. After a typically moving performance early in the competition, judge Tina Campbell of Mary Mary, the gospel sister duo, told McLendon: "You got a standing ovation from God. He's all over you."

Outsinging a field of 20, McLendon made it all the way to Sunday's finals before losing to 27-year-old powerhouse LeAndria Johnson.

But it didn't matter. What matters is that now, in the winter of his life, McLendon's season is finally here.

GIFT FROM GOD

Call it what you want. Wisdom. Talent. Showmanship.

McLendon chooses to credit his gift and the effect it has to a higher power.

"The Lord set me up and used me," he said before performing in concert with other Sunday Best contestants at New Covenant Church of Philadelphia Saturday.

He almost didn't allow himself to be used. "Do you know how old I am?" he'd ask his children when they'd urge him to audition.

Never comfortable in a crowd, McLendon could easily have taken one look at the hundreds of hopefuls at the Convention Center audition on that cold March morning and said, "I don't want to be bothered with all of those people," says his daughter-in-law, Karen McLendon, 56. But she says he stuck it out because of "the prodding from the Lord."

Possessing a silky smooth tenor reminiscent of Sam Cooke, with a smidgen of James Cleveland's thunder thrown in, McLendon sang as a soloist in the Savettes Choral Ensemble and the Brockington Choral Ensemble in the '60s and '70s. He was ordained as a minister in 1978 and pastored St. James Holy Church in Tennille, Ga., for 16 years before reuniting with his family—five children, 15 grands and 14 great-grands—in Philly.

They all sing, but Pops, as his family lovingly calls him, is arguably the best. There's just something about him.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION

"Not only is he anointed, but his [life] experience has to do with his being anointed," says Orlando Wright, who placed third in the competition. "All these years, he's been faithful—not perfect—but faithful, and God has to honor that."

McLendon is enjoying a national recognition he had never known before. He's in the midst of a 40-city tour featuring Sunday Best contestants, where he's the headliner. He gets fan mail every day from viewers inspired to go back to church or pursue a passion late in life because of him.

McLendon's only regret is that Ruth, his wife of 59 years, is in the final stages of Alzheimer's disease and cannot enjoy his season with him. He has cared for her since 2003.

"Beautiful high soprano," he says of his wife's voice. "She wrote music, and we used to harmonize all the time. . . . I'm trying to control myself talking about her."

Still, despite personal heartache, there's much to enjoy—and be thankful for.

"It ain't over," he says, "till God says it's over."

LA-Z-BOY SOUTH COMMEMORATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GREGG HARPER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2010

Mr. HARPER. Madam Speaker, on June 16, 2010, employees, retirees and the company leadership of La-Z-Boy South celebrated 50 years of production. La-Z-Boy founders, Edward M. Knabusch and Edwin J. Shoemaker opened the Newton, Mississippi plant in 1960 when they were seeking to expand production. The Newton facility has grown to 800,000 square feet from the original 60,000 when the plant officially opened. The company credits this half century of success to the men and women of the La-Z-Boy family and to the support they have received from the Newton community.

Founded in Monroe, Michigan, Newton, Mississippi was selected as the first out-of-state plant because of the friendly people and the city's access to raw materials. The first recliner was produced on June 6, 1960, and was raffled off during the opening of a local supermarket. Since that time, La-Z-Boy South has celebrated many milestones including the December 9, 1980 production of its three-millionth chair and the September 17, 2003 production of its 10-millionth chair. Now employing 600 Newton-area residents, the Mississippi facility produces over one hundred different styles of furniture and custom-builds 1,100 pieces every day.

This facility has spurred economic growth in Mississippi outside of the Newton community. From manufacturing to shipping to management, the economy has blossomed as La-Z-Boy's business has increased nationally. In appreciation to the community, La-Z-Boy South has made contributions to many local businesses and organizations, as well as numerous charities and youth programs.

In today's struggling economy, La-Z-Boy has maintained a skilled workforce providing optimism for many hard-working Mississippians. As our nation continues to recover from

the economic slide, our state will rely on successful companies like La-Z-Boy to provide work for jobless Mississippians. I congratulate La-Z-Boy for 50 years of manufacturing excellence and for their involvement in the Newton community and the state of Mississippi.

RECOGNIZING WORLD REFUGEE DAY

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2010

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize June 20, 2010 as World Refugee Day. There are more than 42 million people in the world—16 million of them refugees—who have fled their homes due to war, political conflict, or persecution in their country. We have the responsibility to support these men, women and children, many of whom have struggled in the face of unfathomable violence. Despite the trauma refugees experience, these are people who remain hopeful that one day their lives will return to normal and they will once again be safe from harm.

Today is not the time to dwell on the daunting number of people who are fleeing from their home country, but rather to celebrate the will to live, demonstrated daily by the millions of refugees who attempt to find a better place to call home. We should learn a lesson from those who have lost or given up so much and we must find that kind of courage to support our refugee communities here at home and abroad.

Although much has been done to assist newly arrived refugees, our challenge is far from over. I would like to thank my community organizations who work directly with newly arrived refugees into Washington State. They are the ones who rise to the occasion and should be commended for the great work they have accomplished. Organizations such as The Lutheran Community Services Northwest, The International Rescue Committee, the Refugee Women's Alliance, the Coalition for Refugees from Burma, and the Southwest Youth and Family Services are only a few of the many whose constant advocacy has been a tremendous asset in the lives of my constituents. Community organizations are not the only ones to be recognized. I would be remiss if I didn't recognize the hard work of community individuals who volunteer their time and resources to assist newly arrived refugees to Washington State, many of whom arrived to the US as refugees themselves.

World Refugee Day is a time to come together and spread the word to the global community about a sometimes forgotten population so that we can ensure that we remember our responsibility to aid those whose spirits have not broken and optimism has never wavered. Let us recognize World Refugee Day and honor the millions of refugees worldwide who must daily persevere through hardship and adversity.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. FRANCES K. KOCHAN

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to pay tribute today to the professional teaching career of Dr. Frances K. Kochan.

Dr. Kochan received a degree in elementary education from the State University of New York at Fredonia in June 1962, and began teaching English as a second language on the Island of Yap in September of 1963. After returning to the United States, she served as an adult teacher at the Retarded Citizens Center in Medina, New York, then as an elementary school teacher in the Mannford County School District in Oklahoma.

In the summer of 1970, Dr. Kochan resumed her international teaching career in Guam, where she taught for four years. While overseas, Dr. Kochan received a master's degree in reading education from the University of Guam in 1974.

After returning from Guam, Dr. Kochan began her career with Wakulla County Schools in Crawfordville, Florida, where she served as a reading specialist, reading and language arts projects director, principal and finally as assistant superintendent and curriculum director.

In 1985, Dr. Kochan began her work in higher education at Florida State University, and received her Ph.D. in Adult Education and Policy Studies in 1994. She served there nine years before beginning at Auburn University.

In 1994, Dr. Kochan began at Auburn University serving as an associate professor, and then later becoming the Director of the Truman Pierce Institute. She began working as a full professor in November of 1999, served as Associate Dean of Administration and Research and finally became Dean of the School of Education in July of 2005, where she will serve until stepping down this summer.

Dr. Kochan has a received a number of awards throughout her career, including the 2002 Distinguished Educator Award from Florida State University and the Wayne T. Smith Distinguished Professor Award from Auburn University.

A celebration of her teaching career will be held July 22 at Auburn University. I congratulate Dr. Frances Kochan for her 47 years of service as an educator and join her friends and family in honoring her on this special occasion.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TECHNICAL SERGEANT MICHAEL PAUL FLORES

HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2010

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor United States Air Force Technical Sergeant Michael Paul Flores, who was killed in action on June 9, 2010.

Michael was a decorated 12-year Air Force veteran. During his eight deployments to Iraq