

I am pleased to recognize Special Olympics International for 40 years of service and commitment, and I wish the organization success in the years ahead.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF ED HAUSER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Ed Hauser, an activist who is well known to the people of the Northeast Ohio as "Citizen Hauser." Ed passed away early Friday morning at the age of 47.

Ed Hauser expressed his love for Cleveland by dedicating his time, love, passion, energy, and strong intellect toward preserving all of Cleveland's beautiful, recreational and historic sites. Ed was an engineer and worked in the steel industry in Cleveland until his layoff at the former LTV Steel Company 10 years ago. Since that time, he devoted his engineering training and skills to challenging the local powers. He worked toward the preservation of Cleveland's historic engineering wonders, including steelmaking facilities for a steel museum and the Hulett Ore Unloaders which graced Cleveland's lakeshore for a hundred years.

But Ed's passion was not limited to steel. Whenever the Department of Transportation, the Port Authority, the city, the county, or any powerful private or government forces proposed projects which would jeopardize local amenities, historic structures or places, Ed Hauser paid attention. He gathered the facts and made sure that all available resources were brought to bear. Ed was an expert in using our nation's laws to defend the public interest by protecting important places. If the structure had important historic value, no one knew more about invoking the National Historic Preservation Act to protect it. If there were implications for the natural or human environment, and the federal government were involved, Ed Hauser could be counted on to organize the people around the National Environmental Policy Act calendar. Ed understood that these laws were meant to protect the people and their sacred places. He took all appropriate actions to save Whiskey Island, the Cleveland Marina, the historic Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church and other structures threatened by proposed work on the Cleveland Innerbelt and the Huletts.

Ed was so closely associated with his activism and his knowledge of civic activism tools, that he was featured in a Public Broadcasting System special entitled "Citizen Hauser," which was featured at the Cleveland International Film Festival.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in celebrating the life of Ed "Citizen" Hauser, a true Cleveland treasure who dedicated his life to the people and places in his community. I am saddened by his untimely death. There will be no one like Ed Hauser, but we can hope that others will step up to help fill the huge void in Cleveland's civic life with his loss.

HONORING RICHMONDBUILD

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor RichmondBUILD from Richmond, CA, in my congressional district, a program that is leading the national trend toward green-collar jobs while simultaneously enriching the lives of students by giving them an alternative to drugs and violence. The Pre-Apprenticeship Construction Skills & Solar Installation Training program, run by RichmondBUILD, today received the 2008 FBI Director's Community Leadership Award, which recognizes achievements in the area of violence, drug prevention, and education.

With programs like RichmondBUILD, we can help train the next generation of Americans so that they can succeed in green-collar jobs—jobs that provide a secure future in the renewable energy and energy efficiency fields.

My recent visit with the RichmondBUILD students showed me the students' pure excitement in learning the new skills that will move them forward in their careers. Not only does RichmondBUILD help to stem the use of violence and drugs in our community, the program gives students the opportunity and tools to succeed in a new economy.

I invite my colleagues to learn more about RichmondBUILD, which has brought together community organizations, municipalities, and local industry and labor groups to provide such a successful green-collar job training program.

What Richmond has built with this public/private partnership is a model for cities around the country, and I commend the program's staff and its students for all of their hard work. I am proud to represent a community that includes programs like RichmondBUILD.

PACE STAFFING NETWORK

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I want to salute a company located in the 8th District of Washington, PACE Staffing Network, for earning the 2007 Alfred P. Sloan Award for Business Excellence in Workplace Flexibility for their superiority in providing workplace effectiveness and flexibility.

PACE Staffing represents some of the most prominent companies in the Puget Sound area and provides an invaluable service to employees and employers year after year. Whether looking for a career in health care or manufacturing, the hi-tech sector or customer service, administration or clerical work, PACE is quick to match you to the best fit in the region to help keep our economy compete globally with the most skilled workers in the world. Through changing economies, technologies and staffing levels, PACE clients know to expect innovative partnerships, savvy business acumen and prompt, thorough service.

Without an organization such as PACE Staffing, leading global companies in the

Puget Sound region would lack the resources to keep proper staffing levels and compete in the marketplace. Therefore, the recognition of this body goes to founder and president of PACE, Jeanne Knutzen, for providing a wonderful service while maximizing productivity and attracting the highest quality employees available.

IN HONOR OF COLONEL STEPHEN GREENE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of COL Stephen Greene, and in recognition of his outstanding service to our country. Colonel Greene is retiring after 39 years of service in the U.S. Army.

Colonel Greene boasts a successful and diverse military career, beginning when he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force (USAF) as an active duty enlisted airman from 1969 to 1973. During that time, he traveled throughout South east Asia and remained in the USAF reserves until 1975. The following year, Colonel Greene graduated from nursing school to become a registered nurse (RN). A number of years later, in 1981, he graduated from Basic Airborne School Fort Benning, Georgia, and from the Cleveland Clinic School of Nurse Anesthesia. He served as a certified RN anesthetist in the USAR 156th General Hospital, located in Parma, Ohio, and later had tours in Honduras, Panama, Kentucky, Colorado, Texas, Georgia and Germany. From 1998 until his retirement at the end of this year, Colonel Greene completed multiple tours caring for severely injured combat soldiers in Germany and Afghanistan.

Colonel Greene was promoted to colonel in the U.S. Army in November of 2001 and boasts over 20 awards and badges from his service to our country. The Bronze Star, Joint Service, Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Air Force Good Conduct Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal and the Expert Field Medical Badge are just a few of the awards and badges he has received throughout his 39 year career. Colonel Greene served as a senior nurse anesthetist (NA) at the Louis Stokes VA Medical Center for 7 years, prior to working as an NA at the Cleveland Clinic at Hillcrest Hospital, where he has been the last 7 years.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of COL Stephen Greene as he retires from 39 years of service in the U.S. Army, and in recognition of his outstanding dedication and service to our country, and to all the men and women who have served along with him.

AN APPEAL FROM A DAUGHTER

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, today Ti-Anna Wang spoke on Capitol Hill to

a group of human rights advocates about her recent visit with her imprisoned father, the heroic Chinese democracy activist Wang Bingzhang. Dr. Wang is a founding father of the post-Mao Chinese democracy movement; he personally founded or co-founded a magazine, a movement, and a political party dedicated to promoting democracy.

Dr. Wang is an incredibly brave man who is serving a life sentence in China for “espionage” and “terrorism”—these are the Chinese Government’s words for promoting democracy. In fact “espionage” and “terrorism” come close to describing the Chinese Government’s own behavior in pursuing Dr. Wang, a permanent U.S. resident whom Chinese Government agents abducted from Vietnam in June 2002, smuggled back into China, and secretly held incommunicado for 6 months, before subjecting him to a “star chamber” trial in January 2003. The U.N. Working Group on Arbitrary Detention has ruled that Dr. Wang’s detention is arbitrary.

Madam Speaker, any father would consider himself extremely blessed to have a daughter like Ti-Anna. When I first met with her, a few months ago, I was deeply moved by how determinedly she has been working for his release. I’m sure the love she is showing for her father is bearing fruit in his life, comforting him while he is in prison.

Today, Madam Speaker, is the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights—an inspiring document, much of which remains a promissory note, unredeemed by so many governments of the world. It is our duty to continue pressing the governments of the world, including our own, to live up to this declaration. Let’s keep working, and keep praying, in solidarity with Dr. Wang and Ti-Anna and all those denied the rights that the Universal Declaration promotes.

Madam Speaker, I would like to introduce into the record Ti-Anna’s report on her recent visit with her father and his condition.

I would like to start by thanking everyone here, on behalf of my family, for taking the time to come to this event. Since I started my work in DC, I’ve been lucky enough to be surrounded by supportive, generous and kind people who are genuinely concerned about my father’s case. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been involved in his fight for freedom. More specifically, I would like to thank Dr. Yang, Congressman Wolf, Congressman Smith, Congressman Ros-Lehtinen, and Senator Feinstein for their recent work on my father’s case. It is the compassion of every one here that gives my family hope and reason to believe that the unlikely is possible.

I’m here today to tell you about my recent visit with my father just two weeks ago. To give a little background, my father’s sentence allows for only one visit a month. Each of these visits last about 30 minutes.

The standard procedure is that my family receives a visitation notice in the mail that lets us know the date of the visit.

As my whole family lives in North America, we usually have a very short amount of time to make the necessary travel arrangements for a long trip to China. Once there, we have to go through a lengthy authorization process before we are allowed to see him. For my latest visit, I had some difficulties getting my visa as scheduled, and didn’t have the proper paperwork, which added a lot of additional stress to this already difficult process.

The visit takes place in a bare concrete building that borders the gate of his remote

prison, several miles away from the closest city. It is so secluded that we have to be driven there by the prison officials, as some of the terrain in that area has yet to be paved.

Right before we can meet, the prison authorities remind us of the rules and regulations, which include only speaking in Chinese, and staying away from topics that will cause my father anxiety. These visits are conducted in visitation booths and are monitored by four prison officials, two standing behind the each of us.

Separated by metal bars and two layers of Plexiglas, my father and I can only communicate using a telephone.

I was very nervous about seeing my father this time. It had been over a year since my last visit, and my family had lost contact with him for two months without any clear explanations from the prison, so I was worried about the state that my father was in. I was so relieved when I was finally able to see him, cheerful enough to smile.

My first concern was his health. My father said that while he is stable, his chronic allergies and severe phlebitis continues to plague him. We talked mostly about my family, my educational future and the work that we are doing on his behalf. As we spoke, it was clear to me that my father’s untreated depression and psychological health continues to worsen.

He had difficulty making steady eye contact and sometimes repeated the same sentences several times. The prison officials monitoring our conversation were kind enough to allot us an extra 10 minutes.

My father wanted me to let everyone know that he is eternally grateful for all the work that has been done on his behalf and that he remains hopeful that justice will prevail.

As our conversation came to an end, my father began to cry. He said the thought of never seeing his ailing 87-year-old mother again often brings him to tears and that his only wish is that they will be reunited before it’s too late.

It has now been over 6 years that my father, now almost 62 years old, lingers alone in prison. I come here today in hopes of conveying the message that my father’s situation has become ever more critical and his time is running out. This is the third time I’ve visited my father, and it is obvious that both his physical and mental health are deteriorating. He has aged so much in the last few years, and his depression is becoming dangerously severe. The prison authorities have told my family that my father’s only chance of receiving medical parole is if he admits guilt to the charges of “terrorism” and “espionage” . . . but I know that my father would never, nor does my family want him to confess to claims that are not only false, but that will comprise his dignity and values.

As we commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, I just want to remind everyone that it is because of my father’s unwavering commitment to this cause that he is being so unjustly punished today.

As the founder of the Chinese overseas pro-democracy movement, there was nothing harder that my father fought for than the values of human rights, freedom and democracy for the people of his homeland.

His contribution to his beliefs has now cost him 6 years of solitary confinement, and possibly his life if we do not continue to fight for his freedom.

So I would like to close today by asking the present and new administration to call for my father’s immediate release on medical and humanitarian grounds.

I also invite everyone here, along with your friends and family to visit

www.initiativesforchina.org to sign an online petition addressed to President Hu Jintao, also calling for my father’s release.

Lastly, I would like to work with congressional leaders toward the goal of obtaining honorary U.S. citizenship for my father as recognition of his lifelong service to democracy and as a statement of America’s recommitment to making human rights a priority in its agenda.

On behalf of my family, I would like to thank everyone here for coming and for your sincere concern for my father.

IN HONOR OF COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR THEODORE N. TANCZUK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Command Sergeant Major (CSM) Theodore N. Tanczuk, as he retires after 26 years of service in the U.S. Army, and in recognition of his outstanding dedication to our country.

CSM Theodore Tanczuk was born in Cleveland on December 6, 1948, a few years after the end of World War II. In 1971, while in his early twenties, he enlisted in the Army. Commander Sergeant Major Tanczuk quickly moved through the ranks and graduated from nursing school, becoming a licensed practical nurse (LPN). In 1982, his vision and dedication to developing the medical department in the U.S. Military led him to set up a nursing school program through the U.S. Army and local nursing schools in Northeast Ohio. The program was sponsored and funded by the U.S. Army, and students who completed the program graduated in one year. 65 of the 68 people who completed this program went on the graduate from nursing schools and work as LPNs in Ohio. Commander Sergeant Major Tanczuk served as a guide and mentor to each of the students throughout the entire process, until they too went on to serve our country in local hospitals all over northeast Ohio.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of CSM Theodore N. Tanczuk, and in recognition of his outstanding service to our country. May his work as an LPN and mentor to other military servicemen serve as an example for all of us to follow.

HONORING JAMES FRANK POLLARD

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a larger-than-life Texan, James Frank Pollard. This afternoon in San Angelo, TX, Frank will be laid to rest. I ask my colleagues and all those present in the chamber to join me in offering their thoughts and prayers to his beloved family, daughter Lisa, son Jim, daughter-in-law Wendy, and his grandchildren, Charless and Sophia.

Born to Charlie and Grace Pollard in Coleman, TX in 1931, Frank’s ingrained Texan values, can-do spirit, and a healthy dose of pragmatism drove him to make his mark in many