

"Chick" Shealy, Bobby Shealy; sisters Fredia Keisler, and Vanna Royalty.

TRIBUTE TO CHERYL DEATLEY

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2017

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to someone who has spent her career making a difference in the lives of children across Maryland and the National Capital region. I've known Cheryl DeAtley for many years and seen her passion and commitment to early childhood education up close. Cheryl started as a coordinator for Charles County's Judith P. Hoyer Early Child Care and Family Education Center, named in honor of my late wife, who dedicated her career to early childhood education and achievement as well. Since 2007, she has been at the Maryland State Department of Education, overseeing the entire network of Judy Centers, as they are known.

In leading the Judy Centers, Cheryl has presided over a period of rapid expansion. Under her guidance, the number of Judy Centers has more than doubled, growing from twenty-four locations in 2007 to fifty-one today. They serve more than 18,000 children across our state, helping to close the achievement gap for those entering elementary school by ensuring they and their families have access to a range of beneficial services. These include early education, medical and dental screenings, family literacy courses, and early intervention for children with special needs. For parents, adult education takes place on-site as well. Judy Centers are a one-stop-shop for low-income families to prepare their children to enter school ready to learn and grow alongside their peers.

Cheryl DeAtley has been critical to the program's success. Tirelessly, she's written grant proposals, overseen program finances, advocated before state and federal agencies, and publicized the merits of the Judy Centers in support of expanding the full-service, community school model around the country. Particularly, she's been instrumental in creating public-private partnerships, such as with the Baltimore Community Foundation, to sponsor new Judy Centers. Cheryl has made a point of visiting every single Judy Center annually. I've worked closely with her to ensure that Judy Centers and the Maryland children and families they serve have the resources they need. Sadly for the program, Cheryl will be leaving next month to become a Program Manager at the non-profit Center for Children for its Healthy Families Southern Maryland Program, serving Charles and St. Mary's counties. Thankfully, this means Maryland families will continue to benefit from Cheryl's talent and experience.

Earlier in her career, before a stint in the private sector with a company operating after-school programs, Cheryl served for seven years with the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA). There, she oversaw the GSA's child care program for the entire National Capital Region, supervising a network of twenty-six child care centers serving federal employees. For her last two years at GSA, Cheryl held the position of Child Care Policy Advisor

to the Associate Administrator for Child Care, bringing her depth and breadth of experience to the shaping of nation-wide federal child care policies. Cheryl holds a bachelor's degree in Management Studies from the University of Maryland University College and a master's degree in Early Childhood Human Development from the University of Maryland College Park.

I want to thank Cheryl for her outstanding contributions to early childhood education and to furthering the full-service, community school model in Maryland. It's been a real pleasure working with her over the years to enhance the work of the Judy Centers, and I look forward to working with Cheryl in her new capacity to advance the cause of early childhood health and wellness in Maryland's Fifth District. I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating Cheryl DeAtley on all she has achieved in service to Maryland and wish her well in her next endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE FERNANDES FAMILY

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2017

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Fernandes Family on being nominated the 2017 Kings County Dairy Family of the Year.

The Fernandes Family legacy began when Adao Fernandes immigrated from the Terceira Island of the Portuguese Azores to Tulare, California, in 1977 with dreams of owning a dairy. Once in the United States, Adao worked as a herdsman for Phillipe Ribeiro and Sons, a dairy in Tulare. In 1979, Adao met his wife, Maria Osvalda Avila, who also immigrated from the Azores at a young age, at the Tulare County Fair. The couple married on June 21, 1981 in Tulare at Saint Aloysius Catholic Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Fernandes spent the next nineteen years in Tulare, while Adao continued to work at Phillipe Ribeiro and Sons dairy. In this time, the couple raised three children, Adam, Osvaldo, and Mark. Their eldest son, Adam Fernandes, was born on April 21, 1983. Adam and his wife, Christen, have two boys, Adam and John, and own a local small business, Lost Sock Laundromat. Osvaldo "Ozzie" Fernandes and his wife Katie have two children, Carsyn and Ella. Ozzie, recently made partner, works with his father on the dairy as a partner in the family business. The Fernandes' youngest son, Mark, resides in Hanford, California, and is an employee for the County of Kings.

In 1990, Adao Fernandes partnered with his brother in law, Arnold Avila. With the help of the Valadao Family, the partners established the Avila and Fernandes Dairy consisting of four hundred and fifty cows. In 1999, Adao and Arnold ended their partnership to each manage their own dairy, and Adao's operation became known as the Fernandes Dairy. Adao Fernandes expanded his dairy to host approximately 1,300 cows. In 2016, Fernandes Dairy received the Dairy Herd Improvement Association Lifetime Milk Award.

This year, the Fernandes Family is being honored as the 2017 Kings County Dairy Cou-

ple of the Year at the Kings County June Dairy Month Committee Dinner in Hanford, California. This award is given to prominent dairy families in the community. The Fernandes Family upholds the principles, responsibility, and dedication this award stands for by successfully representing the dairy industry.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Fernandes Family for their influence in the dairy industry, and congratulating them on being Kings County Dairy Family of the Year.

GAGGING THE LAWYERS: CHINA'S CRACKDOWN ON HUMAN RIGHTS LAWYERS AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2017

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I made the following remarks at the hearing held by the Congressional-Executive Commission on China which I co-chair with Senator MARCO RUBIO regarding China's crackdown on human rights lawyers:

Chinese officials repeatedly tell me I should focus more on the positive aspects of China and not dwell so much on the negative.

That is an extremely difficult task when you read the horrifying and sadistic accounts of torture and enforced disappearances experienced by lawyers and rights advocates.

It is hard to be positive when you contemplate Liu Xiaobo's cancer diagnosis and the fact that China effectively silenced its most brilliant democracy advocate.

The empty chair at Oslo speaks volumes about the Communist Party's abiding fear that freedom will upend the power of the privileged few when they should be seeing liberty as a path to greater peace and prosperity.

At a hearing last month in the Subcommittee on Global Human Rights in the House Foreign Affairs Committee, I heard testimony from the wives of five detained or disappeared human rights lawyers. These courageous women have become effective advocates from their husbands and for all those detained in the "709" crackdown.

They described in horrifying detail the physical, mental, and psychological torture experienced by their husbands, including marathon interrogation sessions, sleep deprivation, beatings, crippling leg torture, and prolonged submersion in water.

Many of their husbands also were forced to take alarming quantities of drugs including tranquilizers, barbiturates, antipsychotic drugs, and other unknown substances daily.

What they described was shocking, offensive, immoral, and inhumane. It is also possible that Chinese officials believe the international community will not hold them accountable.

After the hearing, I wrote to the heads of the American Medical Association, the American Psychological Association, the World Health Organization, as well as to Secretary of State Tillerson and Ambassador Nikki Haley.

I have asked for condemnation of the practice of torture and medical experimentation on

prisoners of conscience. I have also asked for investigations so that serious questions will be asked of the Chinese government.

Finally, I have asked for accountability. I have urged Secretary Tillerson to start investigations under the Global Magnitsky Act, a bill that I lead on the House side last year, so that any Chinese government officials complicit in torture should never be allowed to benefit from entry to the U.S. or access to our financial system.

The issues of torture and “residential surveillance in a designated location”—effectively enforced disappearances—will be priorities of mine and of this Commission moving forward. I believe these are issues where diverse and multi-level coalitions can be built to raise issues with the Chinese government.

I would also like to do more to prioritize the protection of human rights lawyers and their families.

At the hearing last month I heard the phrase “The War on Law” used to describe the systematic effort to emasculate the network of human rights lawyers.

That phrase struck me because, though the number of human rights lawyers in China is small, what they stand for was nothing less than the rule of law for everyone—particularly those persecuted or aggrieved by the Communist Party.

They stand for the right of everyone in China—religious believers, ethnic minority, petitioners, labor activists, or victim of corruption or a barbaric population control policies—to have a fair hearing, due process, and a justice that is not politicized.

The Communist Party sees this as a dangerous idea. It means that they should be accountable to the people—to hundreds of millions of people in fact seeking redress for persecution and Party corruption.

Xi Jinping is feted in Davos for his commitments to openness and the rule of law, but it is rule of law for the few and privileged and rule by law for the rest.

The failure to implement the rule of law, to favor a type of lawlessness in the pursuit of keeping the Communist Party in power, has serious and lasting implications for U.S.-China relations.

We must recognize, after the failure of two and a half decades of the engagement policies, that China’s domestic repression drives its external aggression, its mercantilist trade policies, and its unimaginable decisions to keep propping up a murderous North Korean regime.

I know the Chinese government wants me to focus on positive things. I think one positive development here is that the spouses (and families) of rights advocates and lawyers have given Beijing a rightly deserved headache. They have refused to be silent about their spouse’s detentions or disappearances and have used the Internet and media to get out their message.

This trend is something new, something different, something we need to honor because they are under great pressure to be silent—through intimidation, harassment, and detention.

I want to say to our witness Chongyu (CHONG-YOU) that we appreciate your testimony here today and the fact that you are speaking out on behalf of your father. We want you to know that this Commission is an advocate for you, your family, and your father.

If you or your family face reprisals because of your testimony here today, the Congress will take it as a personal affront to the work of this body.

I know your petition has gathered 94,000 signatures, please make sure that my name is 94,001.

The one thing that gives me hope is that the people of China long for liberty, justice and opportunity.

The need for principled and consistent American leadership is more important than ever, as China’s growing economic power, and persistent diplomatic efforts, have succeeded in dampening global criticism of its escalating repression and failures to adhere to universal standards.

The U.S. must be a beacon of liberty and a champion of individual rights and freedoms. The U.S. must also continue to be a voice for those silenced, jailed, or repressed in China.

We cannot . . . will not . . . forget those in China bravely seeking liberty and justice and the unalienable rights we all share. Like China’s human rights lawyers—and like Liu Xiaobo—those who bravely seek peaceful change in China.

It is their stand for liberty, human rights, and the rule of law that remain the best hope for a peaceful and prosperous future for the U.S. and China.

RECOGNIZING MACKENZIE GORE AS 2016-17 GATORADE NORTH CAROLINA BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

HON. DAVID ROUZER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2017

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, I’m proud to say that North Carolina is home to many great student athletes that serve as community role models.

One prime example is MacKenzie Gore who graduated from Whiteville High School this month and has been named the 2017 Gatorade North Carolina Baseball Player of the Year. And, not only that, he was just recently selected 3rd overall in the Major League Baseball draft by the San Diego Padres!

MacKenzie not only demonstrates athletic excellence, but also exemplary character and work ethic—the two primary traits necessary for great success. Very few have achieved as much as early in life, and it’s the culmination of years of hard work and commitment.

As with all who earn success, MacKenzie is blessed to have a big decision to make: go pro and play for the Padres or head to East Carolina University to play for the Pirates. Whatever MacKenzie decides, we are all proud of him and wish him the very best.

CELEBRATING IMMIGRANT HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2017

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of Immigrant Heritage Month.

The month of June is a time for us to celebrate the people that have come to the United States to make a better life for themselves and their families. These individuals have come from all over the globe and play an integral part in the development of our country.

Since its founding, America has been a nation of immigrants. It is important that we acknowledge their contributions to our communities and remember that it was the goals and dreams of immigrants that formed our great nation. I am honored to represent Central Washington, where our culture and economy are deeply enriched by our immigrant neighbors and friends.

Please join me in honoring Immigrant Heritage Month, as I continue to work to ensure opportunity and prosperity for immigrants in my district and across the country.

H. CON. RES. 67—LIU XIAOBO

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2017

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation, Mr. Speaker, and urge the House to pass this resolution. We need to signal the Congress’s unanimous support for Liu Xiaobo, and his wife Liu Xia, in this time of need.

The news of Liu Xiaobo diagnosis with terminal liver cancer was a jarring shock to everyone who admires this champion of freedom and democracy.

Unfortunately, I have heard talk that the world has forgotten Liu Xiaobo. The Chinese state media says he is irrelevant.

We must never forget this Václav Havel of China because his efforts to bring human rights and political reforms are so critical to the future of U.S.-China relations.

We must never forget his enduring contributions—whether during the Tiananmen Massacre where he helped save the lives of many students or with Charter 08—the treatise urging political and legal reforms in China based on constitutional principles.

For the past seven years, Members of Congress have repeatedly called on China to release unconditionally Liu Xiaobo and Liu Xia.

Today, we similarly ask that the Chinese government end this absurdity and its unjust and lawless treatment of these noble citizens—release them, allow them to freely meet with friends and family, and allow them to seek urgent medical care wherever they desire.

In February 2010, I led a bipartisan group of lawmakers in nominating Liu Xiaobo for the Nobel Peace Prize, at the same time nominating two other persecuted human rights advocates, Chen Guangcheng and Gao Zhisheng, to be joint recipients of that most prestigious award.

The Nobel Committee rightly awarded the Peace Prize to Liu Xiaobo for his “long and non-violent struggle for fundamental human rights in China.” I attended the Oslo ceremony at the invitation of the family—along with Leader PELOSI.

It was a moving ceremony; the now famous empty chair spoke volumes about the Chinese Communist Party’s abiding fear that human rights and democracy will undermine its power.