

“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 IMPLICA-  
TIONS FOR U.S.-CHINA RELA-  
TIONS

**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