

in congruence with President Woodrow Wilson's "Fourteen Points." President Ronald Reagan signed an Act of Congress, P.L. 98-372, on July 23, 1984, granting the Polish Legion of America a Federal Charter. There are over five posts in my congressional district which host events and volunteer within the community, with dozens more around the country.

The members of PLAV work collectively to ensure that all those who served our country are provided with benefits and work with Congress to support legislation necessary to ensuring that veterans receive these benefits. This year's National Convention features Robert Kupiecki, Ambassador and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Poland.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of the Polish Legion of American Veterans and in recognition of their outstanding community service and dedication to our Nation's veterans. Their involvement in the community is invaluable; may their work in the community serve as an example for us all.

CONGRATULATING U.S. OLYMPIANS JENNIFER KAIDO AND BEEZIE MADDEN UPON THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE 2008 OLYMPIC GAMES IN BEIJING, CHINA

**HON. JOHN M. McHUGH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 15, 2008*

Mr. McHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jennifer Kaido and Beezie Madden upon their accomplishments as participants in the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, China. These athletes embody the true spirit of the Olympic games and I am proud to represent them.

Jennifer Kaido grew up in West Leyden, New York and is a 1999 graduate of Adirondack High School. In Beijing, Jennifer competed as a rower in the Women's Quadruple Sculls and her crew finished ranked fifth in the world. Beezie Madden, a resident of Cazenovia, New York competing with her horse, Authentic, brought home two medals as a member of the U.S. Equestrian Team.

Jennifer Kaido began her Olympic participation on August 10, 2008, when her Quadruple Sculls' crew finished third in their initial heat. In the repechage, they finished in second place, which qualified them for the finals. In the finals, the American crew valiantly rowed their way to an impressive fifth place finish.

At one time Jennifer's journey to Beijing seemed unlikely. It is my understanding that Jennifer had never rowed prior to trying out for the crew team her senior year at Cornell. She is proof positive that through hard work and determination anything is truly possible. Her rapid ascension in her sport to the level of Olympian is simply amazing. Moreover, it has been widely accounted that Jennifer competed in China with a level-headed attitude along with a deep love for her family and community.

Beezie Madden returns home from Beijing as one of the world's greatest equestrian jumpers. She followed up on her gold medal performance in the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens by again earning gold in the Team

jumping competition. Astride her horse, Authentic, she also won a bronze medal in the individual jumping competition. In addition to these accomplishments, Beezie has earned many accolades throughout her career, including being named the U.S. Equestrian Federation Equestrian of the Year in consecutive years; she also has been named the American Grand Prix Association Rider of the Year and the U.S. Olympic Committee's Equestrian of the Year.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to have the opportunity to extend my sincere congratulations to Jennifer and Beezie upon their accomplishments. They represented our Nation and the residents of central and northern New York extraordinarily well and I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PENSACOLA, FLORIDA CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL COALITION OF 100 BLACK WOMEN

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 15, 2008*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the 15th anniversary of the Pensacola Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women. The NCBW of Pensacola is involved intimately in a wide variety of social, religious, economic, and political facets of northwest Florida, and I am proud to recognize its 15 years of service to the Pensacola community.

The National Coalition of 100 Black Women is a service and advocacy organization that supports women of color who want to work towards solutions on issues of concern to African-American women and youth. Started in 1971 by a small group of dedicated women from New York, the National Coalition of 100 Black Women quickly grew to over 900 members and organized as a broad national service group in 1981.

The National Coalition installed the Pensacola Chapter on October 1, 1993 with 38 local women as its founding members. The chapter's mission is to empower African-American women and youth through programs that meet their diverse needs. These programs are targeted to support black women at key stages in life and include important activities such as youth mentorship and community service.

Recent examples of the Pensacola Chapter role in the community include its Annual Hat Show and Luncheon to raise money for college scholarships targeted to African-American high school seniors. This event features a fashion show of fancy and unique hats and attracts over 500 people each year. Over the past six years, the Hat Show has raised over \$50,000 for scholarships and has helped close to 100 students launch their college careers. Another key NCBW activity is its Adopt-A-School and Mentoring Program. Each coalition member is paired with a student from a particular school and provides advice and guidance to that student throughout the year.

For 15 years, the Pensacola Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women has provided vital service to the people of northwest Florida. Their devotion to empowering Af-

rican-American women is a true testament to the ability of our citizens to work together in order to better our lives and our country.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize the Pensacola Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women for its 15 years of dedicated service to its community.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF  
COUNCILWOMAN FANNIE LEWIS

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 15, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Councilwoman Fannie Lewis, an outspoken leader and profoundly respected member of the Greater Cleveland Community, and to honor a life spent in service to her community.

One of Cleveland's longest-serving Council Members, Councilwoman Lewis was known for her unfailing support and activism for the working class residents of the Greater Cleveland Area. Recognized as a "neighborhood activist," she emerged as the prominent voice for the economically disadvantaged in Cleveland, fighting for their rights regardless of the opposition. Councilwoman Lewis began her career in public service fighting for civil rights and equality in the Hough neighborhood in Cleveland as a recruiter for the Neighborhood Youth Corps during the 1960s. After helping local residents find work and through the Youth Corps, she continued her activism for the residents of Hough Avenue during her tenure in Cleveland's City Council.

She joined the City Council in 1980 and immediately began working on renovating Hough Avenue. Councilwoman Lewis worked tirelessly on housing development in several neighborhoods, pushing for new apartments and houses as well as a large nursing home in Eliza Bryant Village. She challenged local residents to keep their neighborhoods clean. Her tenacious voice for those with educational and economic needs stood in stark contrast to her personable disposition that enabled her to work closely with the residents she represented. Her leadership skills affected all of those around her and she worked around the clock encouraging her residents to stand up for their needs and beliefs.

In addition to her activism for housing and economic development in Cleveland, Councilwoman Lewis pushed for school vouchers for her residents in City Council, giving economically disadvantaged students and their families the opportunity to attend private schools. The Supreme Court ruled in favor of Councilwoman Lewis's program in 2002, upholding her voucher program. In 2003, the Fannie Lewis Law, which requires that city residents constitute at least 20 percent of the workforce on any construction projects that receive contracts worth \$100,000 or more, was passed.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in celebrating the life of Councilwoman Fannie Lewis, whose career in public service is a shining example for public officials and women everywhere. May her pioneering character and exemplary life serve as an example for all of us to follow.