

Those are the dry facts of Wayne Roy's employment, Mr. Speaker. They only hint at a lifetime of commitment to issues that affect the hardworking people of northern Michigan.

In fact, this dedication to union issues was a family tradition that began before his birth. Wayne's father George was a miner in the Upper Peninsula and an officer in his local union. Wayne's mother Delima was a member of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union and the Steelworkers Women's Auxiliary. It was only natural, therefore, that as a child Wayne would learn the importance of unions at his parents' side as he joined them at labor rallies and on picket lines.

After graduating from Gwinn High School, Wayne served a 4-year stint in the Navy until 1958, and then began a series of jobs that would give him membership in several unions. Through one job in Milwaukee, he joined the Chemical Workers, and then through a second he joined Teamsters Local 344, serving as part-time shop steward and committee member.

Returning to the Upper Peninsula, Wayne took a job with a mining company and became a member of Steelworkers Local 4950. In 1968 he joined Sheet Metal Workers Local 94, serving as the union's president for 9 years.

Wayne Roy's commitment to the labor movement led him to take positions with a variety of area civic and political groups, where he could broaden his effort on behalf of working men and women and find new ways to serve his community.

Such service included the board chairmanship of the United Way of Marquette County and the Marquette County Economic Development Corporation, presidency of the Marquette County Labor Council, and memberships on such panels as the Central Upper Peninsula Private Industry Council, the American Red Cross, the Forsyth Township Zoning Board, and the Marquette Prison Inmate Apprenticeship Committee.

It's clear, Mr. Speaker, that even as Wayne Roy and his wife Hazel raised seven children, he was demonstrating his belief that our best community leaders are actually public servants, who seek out every opportunity to improve the quality of life of their neighborhood, their place of employment, their city or township, even their region.

I ask you, Mr. Speaker, and I ask my House colleagues to join me in saluting this dedicated fighter for better lives for ordinary working people.

As one of Wayne Roy's colleagues said recently, he "proudly bears a union label on his soul."

#### A TRIBUTE TO DAN FOSTER

### HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 1999*

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to pay tribute to Dan Foster on the occasion of National Cancer Survivors Day.

Dan Foster, a two-year cancer survivor, has long been known for his commitment to com-

munity service and to enhancing the quality of life for all New York City residents. This gathering is a chance for all of us to pay tribute to a man who has dedicated his life to helping others. Dan Foster truly represents the best of what our community has to offer.

On June 6, 1999, Dan Foster will talk from the Montauk Point Lighthouse to St. Patrick's Cathedral, covering a distance of one hundred fifty miles, in recognition of National Cancer Survivors Day. Dan Foster's walk is dedicated to all cancer survivors and in memory of those who have succumbed to the disease.

This walk will also raise funds for Beth Israel Medical Center and "The Circle of Hope," two organizations who have dedicated themselves to finding a cure for cancer. Beth Israel Medical Center has focused its efforts on understanding and managing the effects of colorectal cancer. "The Circle of Hope," in conjunction with the Catholic Medical Center, will be establishing a palliative care program at the Bishop Mugavero Geriatric Center in Brooklyn, New York. The facility will be designed to provide terminal cancer patients with a sense of dignity as they near the end of their lives.

Dan Foster's dedication to his friends and neighbors can also be seen in his columns for Gerritsen Beach Cares' monthly newsletter. In his columns, Dan, the organization's Health and Welfare Committee Chairman, reminds readers about the importance of regular check ups, exercise and proper nutrition as a means of combating the disease.

Dan Foster has long been known as an innovator and beacon of good will to all those with whom he has come into contact. Through his dedicated efforts, he has helped to improve my constituents' quality of life. In recognition of his many accomplishments on behalf of my constituents, I offer my congratulations on his dedication and devotion to find a cure for cancer on the occasion of National Cancer Survivors Day.

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. LASZLO TAUBER

### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 1999*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, last week the Washington Post published an excellent front-page article about the unique life and the outstanding philanthropic contributions of my dear friend Dr. Laszlo Tauber. I call this to the attention of my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, because in many ways the story of Laci Tauber reflects what is best about this wonderful country of ours.

Dr. Tauber, who received his initial medical training in Hungary before World War II, survived the horrors of the Holocaust in Budapest. He not only preserved his own life, he risked his own life to use his medical training to help those who were suffering the most at the hands of German Nazi troops and Hungarian Fascist thugs.

After coming to the United States, Mr. Speaker, Laci Tauber encountered problems and obstacles that face many of those who emigrate to this country seeking freedom and

opportunity. He rose above those obstacles, establishing a highly successful medical practice in the Washington, DC, area and creating a real estate empire in this area that is the envy of many real estate magnates whose names are far better known in this region.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Tauber has sought to give back something to this country which welcomed him and which provided him outstanding opportunities. His most recent and creative act of generosity involves the establishment of a scholarship fund to assist the grandchildren and other descendants of those men and women who served in our nation's armed services during World War II. Dr. Tauber and I feel a strong debt of gratitude to those brave men and women who risked their lives to liberate the peoples of Europe who were enslaved by Nazi Germany's evil Third Reich. This is only the most recent and most creative of Dr. Tauber's philanthropic endeavors.

I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Dr. Laszlo Tauber. I ask that the article from the Washington Post which details his exceptional accomplishments be placed in the RECORD.

[From the Washington Post, June 2, 1999]

GIVING WITH A POINT: HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR  
DONATES MILLIONS

(By Cindy Loose)

It was a struggle that first year in America, just after World War II. Laszlo Tauber and his wife lived in a Virginia apartment so decrepit the landlord warned them not to step on the balcony because it might fall off.

But with the frugality and generosity that have characterized his life, Tauber saved \$250 from his income of \$1,600. Then he gave it away.

"I am a Hungarian Jew who survived the Holocaust," Tauber wrote in a note to doctors at Walter Reed Army Hospital, where many veterans of the war were recovering from their wounds. "As a token of appreciation, my first savings I would like you to give to a soldier of your choice."

In the intervening years, Laszlo Tauber built a thriving surgical practice, started his own hospital, and in his free moments created one of the largest real estate fortunes in the region. Estimates of his wealth exceed \$1 billion. He may be the richest Washingtonian you've never heard about.

He has already donated more than \$25 million to medical and Holocaust-related causes. Now he's giving \$15 million for scholarships to descendants of anyone who served in the U.S. military during the war years. An additional \$10 million, honoring Raoul Wallenberg, who saved tens of thousands of Hungarian Jews, will go to organizations that memorialize the Holocaust and students in Denmark and Wallenberg's native Sweden.

Several local foundation leaders say even they have never heard of Tauber, but all call the latest donations remarkable.

Tauber hopes the gifts will inspire—or, if necessary, shame—other Holocaust survivors who have the means to give.

When Tauber gives money, he always intends to make a moral point. And when he knows he is right, the 84-year-old says, "you can move the Washington Monument more easily."

Generous in philanthropy, parsimonious in his business dealings, Tauber is, his friends say, the most complicated man they've ever met.

Asked to describe himself, he responds, "I am a righteous, miserable creature of God."

## FORMED IN THE HOLOCAUST

He still sees patients, does minor surgery and makes all major decisions about his varied business and philanthropic enterprises.

He's proud that he charged dirt-cheap prices for his medical services and ignored overdue bills. But he also squeezed every dime of profit from his real estate deals and pursued one failed venture all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

He lives on a 36-acre estate in Potomac and gives away millions but stoops to pick up stray paper clips and writes, in tiny script, on the back of used paper.

Everything about him—his quirks, his drive, his outlook on life—he says can be explained by the Holocaust.

Tauber shuns publicity and must be prodded to discuss his past. People who he believes exploit the Holocaust for personal glory he calls "dirty no-goods." With the current gift, he wants to get the message to other survivors, so he will talk.

In the fading photographs he keeps in his Northern Virginia office, the team of gymnasts from the Budapest Jewish High School looks so young, and so proud. Tauber will never forget a meet in 1927, when he was 12.

"Everyone was standing, singing the Hungarian national anthem, and people started throwing rotten apples at my team, yelling, 'Dirty Jews'" Tauber says. He pauses, tears welling in his eyes. "I thought to myself: 'Bastards. I will train. I will beat them. I will show them.'"

Within two years, he was a national and European champion.

"Am I competitive? Yes, unfortunately so," he says today. "Did I become a happier man? Definitely not. But my experiences made me always stand for the underdog."

Hungary was not occupied by Germany until the spring of 1944, by which time the country had the only large reservoir of Jews left in Europe. Between April and June of 1944, roughly 437,000 Hungarian Jews in the countryside were sent to Auschwitz.

"Almost all were gassed on arrival, or soon after," says Walter Reich, former director of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. The Jews of the capital city were next on the list.

In this atmosphere, Tauber, at age 29, became chief surgeon at a makeshift hospital for Jews. His memories of that time are described in staccato images, interrupted by cracking voice and silent tears.

"A mother begged me to save her son. But you understand, he was dead already."

Zoltan Barta, a friend and former schoolmate, was hit in the head with shrapnel. His last words: "My dear Laci, save me."

Sandor Barna, who refused to wear the required yellow star, begged Tauber to fix the hooked nose that threatened to betray his ethnicity. But Tauber didn't have the equipment. The Nazis killed Barna. "If I could have operated on Sandor Barna," Tauber says, "he would be alive today."

But Reich says Tauber is an unsung hero, worthy of a Presidential Medal of Freedom. Imagine the irony, he says, of running a hospital for people slated to die.

"It's strange, and crazy, but also necessary, and compelling and ultimately noble," Reich says. "And he did it as a young man. And he did it in a manner that foretold his future."

## GIVING AND GETTING

Tauber's son, Alfred Tauber, remembers as a young boy visiting New York City. "At night, I'd walk with my father around Times Square," he says. "I'd ask, 'What are you doing? Why are we here?' He'd answer, 'I'm looking for my old friends.'"

And sometimes, amazingly, they would find one. If the person needed money, Tauber would arrange to give some.

Tauber had come to the United States to take a fellowship at George Washington University, where he was paid a small stipend and supplemented his income by giving physicals for 25 cents each. "I offered my services for less than a decent prostitute would charge," he says now.

Hugo V. Rissoli, a retired professor, says that Tauber was brilliant, but that the doctor assigned to be his mentor virtually ignored him, and Tauber was not asked to stay on.

Tauber sensed antisemitism and reacted much as he did when he was 12: If discrimination was to keep him from rising at an established hospital, he'd build his own. He built the hospital, the now-closed Jefferson Memorial in Alexandria, in part so he could train other young doctors who had earned their degrees abroad.

In his spare time, with a \$750 loan, he began amassing the necessary fortune in real estate.

"Real estate meant independence, to practice as I wish," he says. "I spent 5 percent of my time on real estate but got 95 percent of my money from it." His development portfolio was diversified—office, retail, government, residential. In 1985, he became the only doctor ever named on the Forbes magazine list of richest men.

Tauber takes enormous pride in his surgical skills but shows none in his real estate prowess.

Real estate, his son Alfred thinks, is the means his father uses to steel himself against an unstable world. But, says Alfred, a medical doctor and director of the Center for Philosophy and History of Science at Boston University, it also "appeals to his competitive streak. He takes delight that he can play the game better than most."

Wizards owner Abe Pollin marvels at Tauber, whom he met in the early 1950s. "It took every ounce of my energy to run my real estate business," Pollin says. "I was much less successful at it than him, and he did it while running a full-time medical practice."

Tauber's real estate empire brought many battles. As the federal government's biggest landlord, he was known for building exactly to code, with no frills.

For two years, nine federal agencies fought being transferred to an 11-story building on Buzzard Point that the General Services Administration was renting from Tauber for \$2.5 million a year. It was so spare, they couldn't imagine working there. Finally, the GSA strong-armed the Federal Bureau of Investigation into moving there.

Rissoli likes to tell of the time neighbors complained Tauber was putting up a three-story apartment building in an area zoned for lower buildings. Tauber took off the roof, removed a few rows of bricks and called it a 2.5-story building.

Tauber's daughter, Irene, a San Francisco psychologist, says she never realized growing up that her family was wealthy. They lived simply, in an apartment building that was part of a Tauber development in Bethesda, between Massachusetts Avenue and River Road.

But they were initially unwelcome in the neighborhood, even though they owned it.

Tauber says that soon after he submitted the winning bid to buy the land in the late 1950s, an agent representing the owners asked that he agree not to sell any of the residential tracts to blacks or Jews.

The agent was amazed when Tauber told him he was Jewish. Under threat of a lawsuit—and at the agent's urging—the owners went through with the deal.

## THE USES OF MONEY

Some years ago, Tauber was due at a reception at Brandeis University, where he had donated \$1.6 million to establish an institute for the study of European Jewry. He needed a white shirt and steered his daughter toward Korvette's, the New York-based discount store. Inside, he headed for the basement.

"Daddy, Korvette's is already cheap," Irene protested. "You don't have to go in the bargain basement."

Tauber's only concession to his wealth is the home he shares with his second wife, Diane. (He and his first wife, now deceased, were divorced years ago.) But even his home cost him little: He made a huge profit by selling off some of the surrounding land.

But although he doesn't spend money on himself, he gives it away. He harbors resentment about the treatment he says he got at George Washington University decades ago, but he agreed to donate \$1 million to the campus Hillel Center on the condition that a room be named in honor of Rissoli.

Rissoli says he did nothing more than be friendly to Tauber. But Tauber says that by being kind, Rissoli restored his faith in humanity.

One-third of the new \$15 million grant will be funneled through GW, the rest through Boston University and others to be named. Recipients, to be selected by the universities, will be required to take one Holocaust-related course or tutorial.

Tauber says he hopes the gift will prompt students to think about the sacrifices of their forefathers. The funds are dedicated to the memory of his parents, as well as his uncle and his only brother, both of whom died in the Holocaust.

Why do it now?

"I don't stay here too long," he says. "At my age I should not start to read a long book."

The money, most of which will become available at Tauber's death, will be awarded with one unusual guideline: The percentage of African Americans who receive the scholarships must be at least as large as the percentage who served during World War II—or about 6 percent, according to military historians.

"It cannot be tolerated," Tauber explains, "that those of us who were discriminated against should ever ourselves discriminate."

The Americans who fought in foreign lands for strangers, Tauber says, rescued a remnant of his people, and they saved the world.

"It is not enough," he says, "to shake hands and say thank you."

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

## HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 1999

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, last night I missed three votes due to personal business. If I had been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall No. 174, "no" on rollcall No. 175, "aye" on rollcall No. 176, and "no" on rollcall No. 177.