

Massachusetts (Ms. PRESSLEY) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the massacre of the Palestinian people and the urgent need to de-escalate the Middle East.

For months now, after the brutal attack on October 7, the world has watched in horror as the crisis in Gaza has worsened daily. Today, less than 200 days later, nearly 34,000 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli forces.

Every day that goes by without a cease-fire is another day that Palestinians are subjected to violence, starvation, death, and destruction.

Every day that we do not de-escalate the region, more lives are put at risk.

Mr. Speaker, I condemn the Iranian military's attack on Israel, and I condemn the Israeli military's attack on the Iranian consulate in Syria.

These escalations are dangerous, and we now find ourselves at a critical inflection point. We can either leverage diplomacy to de-escalate tensions and push for peace, or we can stand idly by as this spirals into a broader regional conflict that will result in more loss of life—Palestinian, Israeli, and American.

We must de-escalate, and facilitating a lasting cease-fire in the region is the only path forward.

Some of my colleagues seem all too willing to rush into an endless war with Iran and continue providing a blank check to the Israeli military.

Right now, Palestinians in Gaza are being starved, bombed, tortured, and executed. Generations of Palestinian families have been wiped out. Over 2 million are displaced from homes that have been razed to the ground. Make no mistake: History will remember this moment as a genocide.

We cannot bomb our way to peace, and the U.S. must stop using our tax dollars to arm the Israeli military with more bombs and bullets. These are the same bombs and bullets that have been used to kill over 14,000 children in Gaza. It is shameful.

It is why we see momentum across the globe in support of a cease-fire. Millions are marching peacefully in the streets. A cease-fire is the mandate, a cease-fire to surge humanitarian aid, a cease-fire to bring all the hostages home, a cease-fire to save lives.

We will never be silent in the face of injustice. We need a cease-fire now.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LUKE
BAILEY SANTOS

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Luke Bailey Santos of Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Our community is devastated over the loss of Luke. He was a force for good and a bright light in politics and our world. Luke believed deeply in the power of community organizing and could build meaningful relationships with folks from any and every walk of life because he cared deeply.

He knew that our destinies were tied and our humanity connected. He had a

heart for storytelling, as well. He represented the best of us, a genuine person who loved his family, his friends, and the pursuit of justice.

Luke never had an agenda, only passion. He was ready to roll up his sleeves and play any role. Our team often described him as a wunderkind and the kid who would be President someday.

Mr. Speaker, I am devastated that Luke's time on this Earth was so short. His 20 years were filled with meaning and contribution and love. He made every day count, and every day, he made our world better. In his name, we will continue the work of building a more just world.

HONORING THE LIFE OF A TRUE COMMUNITY
BUILDER, PAUL PARRAVANO

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the passing of a true community builder, the unofficial "Mayor of MIT," Mr. PAUL Parravano.

Paul was compelled to work "so tell me about yourself" into every single conversation he had, and he meant it, so let me tell you a little bit about him.

Paul Parravano joined MIT's Office of Government and Community Affairs in 1990. He touched countless students, faculty, community leaders, and elected officials in his 33 years of service. He was committed to the full inclusion of disabled people in every aspect of life. He served as a board member of the National Braille Press, just one of his many contributions to the empowerment and upliftment of the broader disability community.

A Braille champion, his advocacy improved access to financial information for the blind across the United States. His contributions earned him the Cambridge NAACP's Lifetime Achievement Award and the Cambridge Community Center's Reverend Nichols Founder's Award, and he was the inaugural recipient of the MIT Staff Award for Distinction in Service—all well deserved.

His legacy was really forged in the intimate moments he shared so freely with any and everyone he met and how generously he shared his hard-fought wisdom.

He showed us how to lead with compassion, and although he was blind, Paul saw people. He saw the infinite possibilities within people and in our world more than any person I have ever known.

Mr. Speaker, to his wife, Martha, and his daughters, Emily and Ellie, I thank them for sharing Paul's light and love with us. We are a better Commonwealth because of him.

CELEBRATING 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF ORO VALLEY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. CISCOMANI) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the town of Oro Valley's 50th anniversary.

On April 15, 1974, Oro Valley started as a small town with only 1,200 people.

Today, it has grown into a booming community with a population of over 48,000 Arizonans.

The town recently celebrated its 50th anniversary with community performances from local bands, fireworks, and parades. This celebration was a testament to the sense of community and strong neighborly values my family and I have been fortunate enough to experience ourselves over the years.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mayor Winfield and Vice Mayor Barrett for their leadership of the community.

I am so proud to represent Oro Valley and so many other wonderful communities like this in our district.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF LEAD POLICE
OFFICER ADAM R. BUCKNER

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Lead Police Officer Adam R. Buckner, one of Arizona's brave law enforcement officers who tragically passed away on Sunday, March 31, 2024.

At just 31 years old, Adam lost his life while serving our community so bravely in Tucson.

Officer Buckner started his law enforcement career with the New Orleans Police Department in 2017 and then joined the Tucson Police Department in November 2021.

Officer Buckner recently won the Midtown Division's Officer of the Month award for his dedication to the community. His commitment to community service shined bright during his time as a lead police officer at the Tucson Police Department.

Officer Buckner was committed to helping others in times of need and truly loved the Tucson community. He is remembered as a loyal, kind, and selfless friend and remains a true hero in the hearts of our Tucson community.

Officer Buckner is survived by his wife, mother, sister, and three brothers. We will never forget Officer Buckner's sacrifice or the ultimate sacrifice of any first responder. His death is a reminder that our police, fire, and medical personnel and all first responders risk their lives every time they put on the uniform. We extend our gratitude for his dedicated service and are eternally grateful for his contributions.

U.S.-ISRAEL FRIENDSHIP MORE CRUCIAL THAN
EVER

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, this past week, Iran has launched a direct, aggressive, unprovoked attack on our ally, Israel.

I was on the ground in Israel less than 2 weeks ago with a group of 18 of my colleagues to hear from Israeli police, soldiers, and officials about the importance of the United States' partnership.

As Israel defends itself in their war against Hamas, Iran, and other proxy terrorists, the U.S.-Israel friendship is more crucial than ever. I met with families of hostages and visited sites of the October 7 attacks, one of the most impactful parts of my visit.

We have seen the names, numbers, and footage, but when you meet the families who lost loved ones or visit with them like we did this week, it is even more gut-wrenching.

We also met with several Israeli officials, including Prime Minister Netanyahu and President Herzog.

Mr. Speaker, 193 days is how long the Israeli hostages have been held by Hamas terrorists. In Israel, I spoke with the families of the hostages. For months, these families have agonized over not knowing the status of their loved ones. As a parent myself, it is an unimaginable pain. We must stand in solidarity with Israel and bring every hostage home now.

It was a somber but incredibly impactful visit and only reinforced my support for our friends in Israel.

Then, 6 days after I returned, Iran launched an attack on our ally, Israel. Over the weekend, Iran launched an attack on Israel that included the use of 185 drones, 110 surface-to-surface missiles, and 36 cruise missiles. Despite the scale, this attack was rendered unsuccessful due to Israel's multilayered air defense and its partnership with the United States.

I am now more than ever going to continue to protect the U.S.-Israel relationship. I am a proud cosponsor of the Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act.

This body must act now. We need to come together to support our ally. Time is of the essence.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stand united on this issue immediately.

RECOGNIZING BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB) for 5 minutes.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Congressional Mamas' Caucus, I am asking our Chamber to please take a moment to recognize that we are experiencing a Black maternal health crisis in our country.

In Michigan's 12th Congressional District, we are experiencing not only the Black maternal health crisis but also an infant mortality crisis.

We don't want another study. We want action.

Michigan has had one of the highest death rates among Black women in our country because our systems and institutions have failed to provide our Black neighbors with the comprehensive, high-quality care they deserve, a system free of systemic racism.

To address the Black maternal mortality crisis, we must understand and acknowledge our country's racist history and the ways in which it has manifested in our healthcare system. Black women are three times more likely to die from pregnancy-related causes than White women. This is unacceptable.

Black women have consistently been neglected and mistreated in our

healthcare system. They should feel safe and supported by their healthcare professionals, and they should be believed.

Black women in frontline communities like ours also live with the devastating effects of preexisting conditions from air and water pollution.

I founded the Congressional Mamas' Caucus with Mothering Justice because we were tired. We were tired of policies created about mothers but not with mothers.

I am also incredibly proud to have been a supporter and cosponsor of the Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act, a comprehensive bill that would address every dimension of the maternal health crisis in America.

This legislative package will extend WIC eligibility, fund community-based organizations, prioritize Black maternal mental health, support incarcerated mothers, and invest in Federal programs to address the Black maternal health crisis.

Mr. Speaker, I will not stop until Black women receive the equitable, nondiscriminatory, comprehensive care they deserve.

GET THE LEAD OUT

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, water contaminated by lead service lines can be found in every single congressional district in our country. From rural areas to densely populated cities, lead service lines are widespread and pose serious health risks to all of us, but particularly our children.

I founded the Get the Lead Out Caucus with the goal of eliminating lead from our drinking water once and for all.

Experts have estimated that we need \$60 billion to replace every single lead pipe in America in the next 10 years. We continue to wake up to stories about children being poisoned and cities having to hand out bottled water because they have failed to invest in our water infrastructure.

We are now seeing our own food supply being impacted by toxic water being used to wash produce that ends up in our refrigerators and on our dining room tables.

People across our country are being forced to drink, bathe, cook, and wash dishes with water that is literally poisoning our bodies.

This is a public health crisis, Mr. Speaker, and it affects all of us in the United States.

I am proud that I am leading, in partnership with Congresswoman DEBBIE DINGELL and LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER, an appropriations request to provide \$1.5 billion in additional funding for lead service line replacement in Michigan and throughout the country in the next fiscal year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in this initiative. I know that many of our municipalities have talked to all of us about struggling to find the resources to meet the urgent need for lead pipe detection and replacement, so this \$1.5 billion would

keep us on track for our goal of total nationwide lead pipe replacement in the next decade.

Tribal nations across the Great Lakes remind us that water is life. There is no more precious resource than water. We must continue to demand that clean, affordable water is a human right in our country.

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CONGRATULATING LAILA NASHER

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to congratulate Laila Nasher, a resident from our district and a dedicated leader in our community, for becoming the first Yemeni-American woman to earn the prestigious Truman Scholarship award.

Born in Aden, Yemen, Laila is a proud immigrant and was raised by her mother in Detroit. In 2021, I had the honor and privilege of Laila interning in our office, and since then I have watched from afar her incredible commitment to public service, and it continues to just grow.

Laila is committed to advancing equity in our public education and supporting underserved communities and first-generation college students like herself. As a student at Harvard, she is now studying social anthropology and history and inspiring young Yemeni-American women in our community and across our country to pursue their dreams.

I am so proud of Laila in receiving the Truman Scholarship award and cannot wait to see all that she is going to be able to accomplish in the years to come. Please join me in congratulating Laila for her outstanding achievements and deep commitment to our community.

GOVERNMENT OVERREACH DURING PANDEMIC

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, we witnessed the egregious overreach of government during the COVID-19 pandemic, which resulted in the infringement of Americans' rights and devastating consequences for our economy and unprecedented government spending.

From the outset of the pandemic, we witnessed unprecedented government actions that trampled upon our basic freedoms and liberties: social shutdowns, mandated mask wearing, and vaccine mandates were imposed with little regard for individual autonomy, constitutional rights, or people's personal health issues.

These heavy-handed measures not only eroded the fabric of our society but also inflicted severe economic harm on businesses and families across the Nation.

Those of us with an ounce of common sense suspected from the beginning that COVID was little more than the