

Kathy also shared the thing she missed the most about Ryan: seeing his smile, a simple gesture that brightened her day.

Here was a mother from eastern North Carolina whose child was killed in Iraq by an IED, the most devastating thing that could happen to a parent. Despite her grief, Kathy has become a powerful advocate for the Honor and Remember flag.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to pass this vital legislation and for America to honor and remember our fallen heroes like Ryan.

#### FIRE BY PRESIDENT TRUMP

(Ms. BONAMICI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share the story of a Federal scientist in Oregon who was recently fired by Donald Trump and Elon Musk.

In Oregon, we experience seasons with drought and wildfires, and lives depend on accurate research of water sources. Mr. Speaker, 60 to 70 percent of usable water in both Oregon and Washington comes from mountain snowmelt, which is a critical water source in the West. It is vital to farmers, forests, and every community I represent.

The scientist was with the Department of Agriculture's Oregon Snow Survey.

Here is what he said:

My job was to collect tangible data from the snowpack which could be used to determine a community's yearly water budget. I am completely heartbroken to have lost my position with the USDA.

Mr. Speaker, these reckless firings are not just devastating to dedicated scientists who have chosen to work in public service, they also endanger Oregonians and people across the country.

#### FIRE BY PRESIDENT TRUMP

(Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share the story of a Maryland scientist and constituent from Maryland who was fired by Elon Musk and the Trump administration. I am honored to share this story on the floor of the U.S. House today.

This person was a general engineer and market analyst for the Department of Energy and, in fact, was responsible for analyzing emergency and emerging technologies and determined their best paths to the commercial market, including increasing energy affordability, reliability, and resilience for the American people nationwide.

These efforts were maximized by working in close partnership with the national labs, other offices within the Department of Energy, and private industry. It was a dream job for this per-

son and one that drove innovation, collaboration, and good-paying jobs for the American people. However, now this invaluable work is gone, and it is being jeopardized.

I am deeply concerned about how these widespread and indiscriminate layoffs could jeopardize our U.S. competitiveness and even our national security.

As a former deputy secretary at a Commerce agency, I well knew the process that was laid out methodically for termination. However, we will face severe setbacks without the support of Federal funding or the institutional knowledge of the subject matter experts leading these efforts.

#### FIRE BY PRESIDENT TRUMP

(Mr. SUBRAMANYAM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share the story of a Federal worker, an FAA scientist, who DOGE and the administration fired. This person's job was to create and maintain flight maps that air traffic controllers and pilots could use to navigate airspace. Without these maps, "pilots would quite literally be flying blind."

Yet the Trump administration says they didn't fire anyone at FAA working in critical safety positions. However, it is pretty obvious that the scientists who make the maps pilots use to fly are critical to aviation safety.

Moreover, aviation safety has become a big issue lately, with recent close calls and crashes, including one in my home State of Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, how do we expect Americans to feel safe if we are firing the very scientists who keep us safe?

These cuts aren't going to save much money. These dollars are a drop in the bucket, but they will cost lives.

#### HARMFUL BUDGET

(Mr. MRVAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my profound disappointment in the House budget resolution and the severe potential harm it will cause to those who rely on Medicaid benefits in northwest Indiana.

In Indiana's First Congressional District alone, it is a fact that the overwhelming majority of Medicaid funding goes directly to senior healthcare, individuals with disabilities, children, and senior long-term care.

Indiana is also one of the few trigger States in our Nation, which means that Medicaid benefits will immediately cease for a large percentage of our residents should the Federal proportion of assistance fall below 90 percent.

I am a staunch supporter of creating efficiencies and eliminating waste, fraud, and abuse. However, Mr. Speaker, make no mistake: Should this legis-

lative initiative be finalized, not only will benefits be denied to those in need, but private health insurance costs will skyrocket as hospitals seek to recoup that increased uncompensated care from emergency room visits.

I will continue to speak out against and oppose all legislation that takes real benefits from our seniors, the disabled, and our children to pay for corporate welfare programs.

#### AMERICA'S STANDING IN THE WORLD

(Mr. LATIMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, America once liberated France from the Nazi regime, freed Kuwait from the grip of Saddam Hussein, and defended South Korea against North Korean aggression. However, this apparently is a new MAGA America, siding with the evil aggressor and blaming the victim.

Ronald Reagan called Russia the evil empire, but Donald Trump knows better. George H.W. Bush called Russia part of the axis of evil, but Donald Trump knows better. Our U.S. vote in the U.N. supports the aggressor, Russia; not the victim, an independent Ukraine.

Under President Trump, we are losing our moral standing in world affairs. Our enemies are watching. They are making alliances while we toss aside allies like Canada and Europe to satisfy the inconceivable love this President has for Vladimir Putin.

Putin poisons his critics. That is who our new best friend is.

I am new to this Chamber, but hear me, Mr. Speaker: Consequences will be tragic for those who love freedom worldwide if we don't return to true American foundational principles: freedom and democracy.

#### FIRE BY PRESIDENT TRUMP

(Mr. TONKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share the story of a Federal scientist who was fired by President Trump and Elon Musk.

In the employee's own words:

I was the quality manager for an FDA human and animal food laboratory which tests foods for allergens, pesticides, colors, and food additives, and microbial pathogens such as E. coli and listeria. I was directly responsible for ensuring that laboratory practices adhered to proper requirements. Third-party lab accreditation provides confidence to the public that testing is performed properly and results are trustworthy.

Science, expertise, dedication, skill, and safety is what we lose with these cruel and senseless firings.

They do not, as DOGE claims, boost efficiency. They remove the experts who keep our communities safe. Without these public servants, our health

and our well-being are at risk. I humbly respect our Federal workforce.

#### FIRE BY PRESIDENT TRUMP

(Mr. TURNER of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TURNER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share the story of a Federal scientist in his own words who was fired by President Trump and Elon Musk:

I have a Ph.D. in biomedical engineering. I was hired by the National Cancer Institute and was performing 4- to 5-month rotations to provide my scientific expertise and skill sets to numerous offices. I assessed the scientific progress of grants that fund cancer research. Please protect these agencies.

This scientist overseeing scientific progress of grants that fund cancer research was fired, and the very grants have been frozen.

The University of Houston in my district has had countless grants frozen leading to uncertainty and confusion about the future of the research.

According to the National Cancer Institute, over 40 percent of Americans will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime. Firing cancer scientists and freezing cancer research is shortsighted and irresponsible.

#### FIRE BY PRESIDENT TRUMP

(Mr. CASTEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CASTEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share the story of a Federal scientist who, in his own words, was fired by President Trump and Elon Musk.

Here are his words:

I worked for the U.S. Geological Survey. I was a small aircraft operator and captain of a research vessel. As the only captain at my science center, my termination effectively shuts down a vessel that is required for a number of ongoing projects. I am also the engineer on the boat and I am not sure my vessel will survive termination.

That is Federal money and Federal research that is being lost.

□ 1730

#### DEMOCRATIC PROPOSALS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, it is hard to say where to start, but perhaps I will simply augment what we just heard from my Democratic colleagues, who gave example after example of the crazy, uncoordinated attack on Americans that we are now seeing from the current administration.

As we hear those stories of the reality of the programs that are not moving forward, the reversal of critical programs to protect individuals and their healthcare, to protect individuals in their daily lives as they travel, to protect Americans now and in the future as we address the issues of climate change and the enormous challenges, much more will be said about that in the days ahead. It definitely should be.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to deal with a positive message. It is a positive message that compares how Democrats would address the challenges of our time versus what our President and his DOGE minions are doing and what our Republican colleagues here in the House are attempting to do with their budget reconciliation proposal and soon their individual tax and other policies.

I rise today as House Republicans are moving forward with their budget scheme that literally betrays the working men and women of America, all because my colleagues on the other side of the aisle want to put forward and carry forward the 2017 tax program that the majority rammed through this House without a single hearing. It was a program that created trillions and trillions of dollars of deficit and did little to enhance the American economy.

We see the Trump trifecta in action. Trump and Musk, with the backing of timid Republicans, have traumatized Federal employees. Republicans have purged the military of competent, experienced leaders and have usurped congressional, constitutional power of the purse and power of the law by dissolving programs, such as USAID, which is authorized by law; the Consumer Finance Protection Bureau; and many, many other government agencies.

Mr. Speaker, instead of reclaiming the constitutional power of Congress, our Republican colleagues are now pushing forward their budget that will make working families sicker, less healthy, and hungry, all the while giving \$3.5 trillion in lower taxes and tax breaks to their billionaire donor friends and corporations. In the process, it will skyrocket the national deficit and apparently betray their own long-held view that deficit financing was bad.

Mr. Speaker, the Democrats have a different version. It is based on what Franklin Roosevelt said many years ago: "The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little."

It is our intention to create a level playing field upon which every Amer-

ican can advance and prosper. Republicans are doing neither of these. Worse yet, the majority will provide nothing for those who have little and give everything to those who already have so very, very much.

The Roosevelt test is once again before us, and Republicans are failing at that test. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle intend to cut Medicare while making healthcare for the Americans more expensive.

My Republican colleagues intend to cut student loan relief programs. They intend to cut Pell grants that are crucial for keeping not only students in schools but schools open all across communities of America, particularly low-income communities.

Republicans will make our children go hungry by slashing school lunch programs and even school breakfast programs. The majority will cut SNAP programs, a lifesaving program that feeds millions of Americans and provides support to farmers.

My colleagues will make our roads less safe by cutting critical infrastructure. Republicans will cut services that maintain our national forests and our national parks, as we heard. Firefighters are being laid off or not even being hired for the summer fire season.

In our national parks, who will be there? Apparently my colleagues on the other side of the aisle don't care much for those people who are necessary for providing the summer programs in our national parks.

My Republican colleagues will give \$3.5 trillion in tax breaks to the super-wealthy and to very large corporations, who often pay no taxes at all. In all of this, the majority will add trillions to our national debt.

Democrats have a different vision. It is a vision rooted in fairness and rooted in the words of Franklin Roosevelt. We believe that every American deserves a good quality of life, a shot at success, a vision of a level playing field on which they can prosper and have the support to rise as far as they could and as far as they would want.

We are here today to highlight our vision and to show the American people that there is a disconnect between what the Republicans want and are actually doing and what American families really need.

Here are some of those policies that the congressional Democrats would bring to the floor if we had four more Members in our Caucus:

Democrats will support working families. The first thing we will do to support working families is to expand the child tax credit.

Ranking Member ROSA DELAURIO's American Family Act will cut child poverty in half and provide critical relief for middle-class and low-income families by providing a \$6,000 refundable tax credit to help families with the high cost of a child's first year of life.

Democrats will lower the cost of goods and services for Americans. If we