CORRECTION

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AIDS Foundation, one, because of the health care that the Thomas Street Health Center gives and to be able to thank them for the litany and devotional that they provided for us, and to the AIDS Foundation, of course, to thank them for letting people live with AIDS and to have the comfort of those who will stand with them.

December 2, 2013

I am also wearing another button today, and that is to salute those and to embrace those who are for the fasting families. We must have comprehensive immigration reform, and I stand with them to save lives, as well.

APPLAUDING STATE CHAMPION EDEN PRAIRIE EAGLES FOOT-BALL TEAM

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Eden Prairie Eagles for winning this year's Minnesota High School Football Championship.

It was a three-peat, Mr. Speaker. With this weekend's victory, the Eagles solidified a State record ninth school championship and became the first large enrollment school to win three consecutive titles.

Going undefeated the entire season, the road to the State title was nothing short of excellence, and the Eagles' victory was earned through unwavering hard work.

Mr. Speaker, the members of this year's team exemplify what it means to be student athletes, and they have shown incredible determination, character, and teamwork. It is no wonder that nearly 20,000 Minnesotans came out to watch the championship game.

Congratulations to the entire team, including Coach and Eden Prairie High School Athletic Director Mike Grant. This year's success is a tribute to their high level of commitment, one that I am sure they will continue to display not only on the field, but in all aspects of their years to come.

WORLD AIDS DAY

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, let me first thank our leader, NANCY PELOSI, for her dedication and unwavering support to fight AIDS since arriving at the United States Congress 25 years ago.

This morning, I had the honor of joining President Obama, Secretary Kerry, Secretary Sebelius, and many advocates at the White House to mark World AIDS Day. It was a time for remembering the friends and loved ones whom we have lost. It was a reminder of the extraordinary progress that we have made, but also a reminder that we cannot stop now.

In the United States Congress, few issues have transcended partisan grid-

lock like the fight against AIDS. I want to also salute Chairman ED ROYCE and our ranking member Eliot Engel for their unwavering commitment to keeping this a bipartisan issue. Thank you.

In the last 2 weeks alone, we have passed the HIV Organ Policy Equity Act and the PEPFAR Stewardship and Oversight Act, which President Obama signed into law this afternoon.

So many played a major role in the creation of PEPFAR and the Global Fund, and I am so proud of the leadership from the Congressional Black Caucus in supporting PEPFAR and the Minority AIDS Initiative and the National Strategy on HIV and AIDS.

Now is the time to recommit ourselves to an AIDS-free generation.

CONDEMNING VIOLENCE IN UKRAINE

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, as cochair of the Ukrainian Caucus here in the House, I rise today to condemn the violence currently igniting in Ukraine at the hands of Ukraine's top government officials. Their targets are peaceful protesters and dozens and dozens of journalists who have been harmed.

Shouldn't President Yanukovych and the Ukrainian Government be working hard to encourage and ensure a more open society rather than repressing their own citizenry? Shouldn't they be building a society in which Ukrainians can assemble and freely voice concerns regarding the future of their country?

Hundreds of thousands of demonstrators, some have estimated over a million people, have taken to the streets in Kiev this past week out of frustration at their government's abandonment of the European Union Association Agreement. As protests escalated through this weekend, journalists and demonstrators were met with a violent police crackdown. Many were brutally beaten and burned by tear gas.

For many years now, Ukrainians have called for and continue to desire a government and country that embraces democracy, liberty, and respects human rights. Those citizens in the streets and all Ukrainians deserve the opportunity to peacefully demonstrate. They should not fear government retaliation.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, let me say that I continue to support the Ukrainian people's European aspirations and their demands for democratic reform. Let the people of Ukraine move forward and face west and east and north and south with no fear of reprisal.

SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

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

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, climate scientists like Dr. Rob Dunbar of Stanford are warning us that if we continue down this path of inaction, global sea levels will rise, on the average, anywhere from 1 to 7 feet by the end of this century.

Let's just take a 4-foot rise in global sea level, for example. That would devastate coastal communities and jeopardize, in my State, hundreds of thousands of Californians' properties, causing billions of dollars' worth of damage. As someone who represents a coastal port, this rise in sea level will cause us tremendous amount of infrastructure needs.

It is our responsibility to take action now to help cut greenhouse emissions so that we can start to curb some of the deepest harm caused by rising sea levels. If we do not act, we are turning our back on every coastal community not only in California, but on this entire planet.

CONGRATULATING THE YERINGTON LIONS FOOTBALL TEAM

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

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Yerington Lions football team on their 42–19 win over Mountain View Christian for the Division III Nevada State title.

They were undefeated throughout the season, finishing 11–0. So this wasn't just one title game; it was a year of proving that they are really the best. And it is not just any State title for this school; this is the first State title since 1981. And they have the support of everyone in town. The whole community was out for the game, wearing their team colors of purple and white.

Interesting to note, on average, the Yerington Lions gave up less than 5.6 points per game, average. That is lower than Congress' approval rating. That is pretty impressive, don't you think?

Yerington is an important part of my 51,000-square-mile district. So I want to say congratulations to the students, congratulations to Coach Cody Neville, and congratulations to Yerington. You make Nevada proud.

THE METRO-NORTH RAILROAD DERAILMENT

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, yesterday in my district and very near to my home, there was a horrific derailment on the Metro-North Railroad, which cost the lives of four people and injured another 63. My heart goes out to the victims: the people who died, the people who were injured, and their families, as well.

The National Transportation Safety Board is investigating, and hopefully very soon we will know exactly what happened and have their recommendations, as well. Right now, all preliminary accounts say that the train was going 83 miles an hour in a 70-mile-anhour zone that was soon by a curve going down to what should have been a 30-mile-an-hour zone.

Again, I hope when the NTSB comes out with recommendations for safety on our rail in the United States, that the Congress will act accordingly and perhaps pass legislation to make our trains safer. In the meantime, again, my heart and our hearts go out to all the victims of this horrific tragedy.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to welcome to the House of Representatives five selfless individuals, courageous reformers who have made a tremendous sacrifice to raise awareness for the need of immigration reform. They are truly deserving not only of our applause, but also of our admiration.

After fasting for over 3 weeks, these committed reformers have successfully drawn attention to the pressing need to pass immigration reform. As Members of Congress, we cannot ignore the steadfast devotion of these advocates through further inaction.

Along with the majority of this country and the majority of the House of Representatives, these tremendous leaders know we need comprehensive immigration reform now. Unfortunately, the House leadership continues to irresponsibly block commonsense, bipartisan reform by refusing to let the full House vote.

Mr. Speaker, these leaders need more than applause. They deserve a vote, and they deserve it now.

THE DISTURBING AGREEMENT WITH IRAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I think there has been a lot of things going on in the world in the last few weeks and a lot here domestically, things that have not been going well on the administration's agenda. Those have been well documented and are not the reason that I rise tonight.

The purpose for my rising tonight is an issue that seems to want to distract from issues at home, and that is a very disturbing development with Iran and the administration's agreement that has been announced.

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These are disturbing for many reasons. Tonight we rise, and I rise bipartisanly tonight, to talk about this because I want the people of Israel and I want the American people who are great friends of Israel to be assured that there are plenty of Members of Congress committed to this alliance, I am proud to be one of them.

I also join with my friend from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER), and I am excited to be a part of this and discuss for what will be a discussion of what we believe are the values that we share together.

I would go ahead and yield for a brief opening here before we get started, Mr. SCHNEIDER, as we go forward tonight.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Thank you. It is an honor to be here with you to join you in this discussion. The world has watched anxiously as the P5+1 had a series of negotiations that culminated 2 weeks ago in an interim agreement.

As we join here tonight to talk about some of the issues in this agreement, what we will be looking for is to ensure that whatever happens, Iran is not allowed to achieve nuclear capability, and that our allies in the region, including Israel, Saudi Arabia, and others, are protected from the prospect of a nuclear Iran.

I yield back.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. I agree, and I appreciate the gentleman so much.

I believe that it is certain in our foreign policy, as much as anything, America needs to speak from a position of strength that we have; that we should not deny our position of strength and our power to enforce what we believe are standards that need to be looked at across the world. Tonight I want to bring that attention to the floor of the House of Representatives and also to the Nation.

My dedication to the U.S.-Israel alliance brings me to the floor tonight with an urgent message for our President: Don't fall for Iran's public relations campaign. In the words of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu during his recent speech before the U.N., newly-elected Iranian President Hassan "Rouhani thinks he can have his yellowcake and eat it too."

President Rouhani is orchestrating an unprecedented charm offensive to reduce sanctions on his country. Over the last 5 months—this is amazing—his campaign has included tweeting "Happy Rosh Hashanah" to Jews across the globe celebrating their New Year, condemning the use of chemical weapons in Syria after the August 21 attacks, making diplomatic overtures to President Obama through personal letters.

Mr. President, tell Rouhani that mere words won't ultimately improve relations between the U.S. and Iran.

Most recently, two rounds of nuclear negotiations have occurred. A truly disturbing deal between the West and Iran materialized, which puts Israel in a very difficult position.

Much like negotiations with North Korea over its nuclear program, the U.S. is being duped. The deal allows Iran to maintain its nuclear program, while the U.S. sanctions are lifted for 6 months. This deal benefits no one but Iran. There are bipartisan measures

currently in the House and Senate to maintain sanctions and to continue to hold Iran accountable for its actions.

Mr. President, I ask you carefully review President Rouhani's record before moving further with more sanctions relief.

To really understand President Rouhani's intentions, let's look beyond his words to his actions.

On September 19, an op-ed by President Rouhani was published in The Washington Post. In the piece, Rouhani spoke against glorifying "brute force" and in favor of ending "unhealthy rivalries" that drive nations apart.

Forty-eight hours later, President Rouhani presided over the Iranian military parade showcasing over 30 missiles, all with the capability of striking Israel. During his speech, he said, "In the past 200 years, Iran has never attacked another country."

It gets better. Of course Iran doesn't have to attack because its proxy, Hezbollah, carries out its foreign policy. Hezbollah has continuously attacked Israel over the decades, and is instrumental in fighting the National Coalition of Syrian Revolution and Opposition Forces. The NCSRO is a rebel group which the U.S. recognizes as the legitimate representative of the Syrian people.

Let us not forget Iran's intrusion on U.S. soil. The Iranian hostage crisis of 1979 began with an attack on and subsequent occupation of the U.S. Embassy. Fifty-two Americans were held hostage for 444 days. The attack had the support of Iran's then-leader Ayatollah Khomeini. The attack was a clear violation of international diplomatic protocol.

President Rouhani has made several claims that Iran's nuclear program is for peaceful purposes. He says Iran's only desire is to diversify its energy production capability.

Yet, Iran has not only refused to reverse course on enriching uranium but has 1,000 new generation centrifuges that enrich uranium faster and are more durable than previous versions.

As we say down in Georgia, a slap on the jaw and a kiss on the cheek don't send the same message.

Recently, freshman members of the Foreign Affairs Committee sent a bipartisan letter to President Obama telling him to be vigilant in his diplomatic actions with Rouhani.

Any negotiation with the Iranian regime should only come after Iran has stopped enriching uranium and neutralizes the quantity it currently possesses. Congress has let its will be known with the passage of the Nuclear Iran Prevention Act this summer in the House.

Congress and the American people do not trust the Iranian regime. The White House needs to sign the latest set of sanctions. These sanctions go further than previous ones by targeting the profiteering of black market goods. Sanctions target regime members who are guilty of human rights violations.