

So how does cocaine, how do shipments, and how do guns get onto these ships? I doubt that our deputy secretary will inquire about the complicity of the Castro regime in these illicit shipments when he meets with his Cuban counterparts. So shame on us, Mr. Speaker.

CELEBRATING THE CÁRDENAS' 24TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, today is a day that is a very emotional day for my family and me.

Many years ago, there was a beautiful young woman who grew up in Pacoima. She was the daughter of immigrants, and I was lucky enough to meet her and lucky enough for her to accept a date. Some years later, we got married, 24 years ago today, and I just wanted to take an opportunity to thank her for having a moment of lapse and accepting that date and eventually for us getting married. We have four beautiful children that we have raised.

I don't take it for granted, ladies and gentlemen, that as her parents are from Mexico and my parents are from Mexico, from another country, we now have been able to provide a better life for our children that previous generations could not.

So I stand before you as a proud American and a very happy man to know that I am married to a wonderful woman, born Norma Sanchez and now is Norma Cárdenas. She is the mother of our children and someone that I miss very much.

So to you, Norma, I am sorry I couldn't be home. I am thousands of miles away. But thank you for understanding. I look forward to seeing you to celebrate with you soon.

NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEK

(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, it is National Law Enforcement Week and a time to honor the men and women in blue that risk their health and safety daily to keep our communities safe.

The shooting of two officers just this last week in New Hampshire shows us that the danger that law enforcement faces is all too real. Whenever I participate in a police ride-along, I am constantly impressed by the professionalism and the commitment to duty from our police officers.

It is important that we recognize their efforts and make sure they have the resources to do their jobs effectively. I was pleased that last week we reauthorized the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program to help local law enforcement agencies obtain po-

tentially lifesaving equipment for their officers.

In addition, we passed my bill to provide law enforcement with more tools to find abducted and missing children.

Mr. Speaker, we owe a debt of gratitude to the Thin Blue Line and the men and women of law enforcement for all that they do to keep us safe.

RECOGNIZING INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA AND TRANSPHOBIA

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

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia. Every year on May 17, LGBT individuals and their allies use this day to bring awareness to LGBT discrimination.

Since 2004, this day has expanded to every corner of the world. It is celebrated in more than 130 countries, including 37 countries where homosexuality is illegal, where courageous individuals and organizations are standing up for basic human rights.

Sadly, homophobia, transphobia, and LGBT discrimination still exist around the world. Despite last year's victory for marriage equality, many still want to turn the clock back on equality. North Carolina, Mississippi, and Tennessee's recent anti-LGBT laws cast light on this discrimination. Sadly, these hateful bills are nothing more than State-sanctioned hate.

I am proud to have introduced H. Res. 263, supporting the goals and ideals of the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia. I would like to thank the 70 cosponsors and encourage all of my colleagues to sign on as cosponsors.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me tomorrow and every day in speaking out against LGBT hatred.

RECOGNIZING MARYANN VOLDERS ON BEING NAMED ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as co-chairman of the Congressional Career and Technical Education Caucus, it is my pleasure to recognize the efforts of MaryAnn Volders, who was recently named Administrator of the Year by the Pennsylvania Association of Career and Technical Education.

MaryAnn is the vice president of secondary education at the Central Pennsylvania Institute of Science and Technology, or CPI, located in Centre County, in Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District. She has been with CPI for the past 9 years, having previously worked with the Tyrone Area School District.

This award is a true sign of Volders' work in helping prepare students for careers in growing technical fields not only across Pennsylvania, but also across the United States. On a day-to-day basis, MaryAnn's work can include everything from working on a grant to assisting students and teachers—working to create the best possible educational environment at CPI.

Her nomination included five letters of support, including one from a student. MaryAnn says a student greeted her with congratulatory roses after she received word that she had won this award and recognition.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the brave men and women who protect New Hampshire.

Last week in Manchester, our State's largest city, a robbery suspect shot and wounded two police officers. Thankfully, Manchester Police Department caught the suspect. Officers Ryan Hardy and Matthew O'Connor are healing.

Other police officers who risk their lives every day haven't been as lucky. Merrimack native, Ashley Guindon, an officer in Virginia, died in the line of duty earlier this year, a day after being sworn in. Ashley's name will join those on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C.

During National Police Week, officers from around the country are here to pay their respects. Today, I had the pleasure of meeting Hooksett Police Chief Peter Bartlett and Jordan Wells of the Portsmouth PD.

My friends are on the front lines of New Hampshire's heroin epidemic. My bill to increase their access to life-saving antioverdose medication passed the House, and I am a proud partner in a number of efforts to make their jobs easier and safer.

A police officer's job will always be dangerous. This week is an opportunity for us to thank them, particularly those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

SECURING AMERICA'S AIRPORTS

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I have the privilege of serving on the Homeland Security Committee, and in that capacity I have the oversight for any number of agencies, including the Transportation Security Administration agency, along with our ranking member and ranking member of our subcommittee and our chairpersons. Let me be very clear: we want America to be secured.

But I had the privilege of meeting again with the Administrator of TSA,

and as we watched incidents in Arizona and Chicago, I am very sure that as we build the TSOs and as we work to correct these issues, we could not have a better frontline defense for protecting America.

As I have traveled to airports across the Nation and watched civilians or citizens, passengers traveling through, I have seen a smile and a recognition of how important TSOs are. It is important to make sure that equipment works, and it is more important to make sure that we have the right kind of staffing. We are almost 3,000 to 4,000 short of the number of TSOs that we need.

It is also important that we recognize that a professional Federal staff is very important, similar to the many other law enforcement agencies that we have. Privatization is not the answer, but efficiency, expediency, good equipment, and training is. I believe we are moving forward to make sure that we have that kind of trained force to secure the American people and secure the Nation's airports.

COMMEMORATING SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month we celebrated Small Business Week, a time when we especially recognize the unique contributions small businesses make providing opportunities for citizens.

South Carolina feels the positive impact of small-business owners. These individuals represent 97 percent of all employers in our State. I am grateful to represent these entrepreneurs who are dedicated to creating jobs that will help citizens around them have meaningful and fulfilling lives.

I appreciate visiting with members of the South Carolina small-business community. I was grateful to tour Dayton Rogers, a plant in Columbia, South Carolina, led by President Ron Lowry, where I was inspired by the enthusiastic personnel.

I participated in a roundtable discussion with the National Federation of Independent Business, NFIB, led by Ben Homeyer about the overreach of government. These meetings made it clear that small businesses are not being supported by this administration because of the burdensome tax regulations.

I look forward to working with my fellow House Republicans as we support reforms to reduce regulations and create jobs and opportunities.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and may the President, by his actions, never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

RECOGNIZING REBUILDING TOGETHER WAYCROSS

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rebuilding Together Waycross and all the hard work of its volunteers.

The Rebuilding Together organization rebuilds family homes for veterans, people with disability, and low-income families, with the goal of a safe and healthy home for each person in the community.

The nonprofit organization was founded in 1973 in Midland, Texas, by a small group of people who noticed the need to refurbish homes in their community. In the beginning, the group worked on those homes once a year each April, but by 1988, Rebuilding Together gained national recognition.

Rebuilding Together now has over 100,000 volunteers who complete 10,000 projects each year and has spread to rebuilding homes in Waycross, Georgia. Rebuilding Together Waycross is one of four Rebuilding Together networks in the State of Georgia.

I want to thank everyone who is a part of Rebuilding Together, and especially Rebuilding Together Waycross, for the hard work and for the life-changing services that this group has provided to families across America.

MEDIA IGNORES PUBLIC'S VIEWS ON CLIMATE CHANGE

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Americans are skeptical about the news they receive on climate change. A recent Gallup poll found that 46 percent of Americans believe that the Earth's natural changes are the primary cause of climate change. Americans are split as to the cause of any climate change. However, the liberal national media only portrays one side of the story.

Over the last month, every New York Times and Washington Post article on this topic attributed warmer temperatures solely to human activity. Not one mentioned that natural changes could partially be the cause.

What is amazing is that, with all the media bias blaming humans for climate change, half of all Americans still remain skeptical. Americans deserve all the facts about climate change, not just the one side the liberal national media are trying to promote.

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CELEBRATING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, for more than 50 years, May 15 has been recognized as Peace Officers Memorial Day, and the calendar week in which May 15 falls is National Police Week.

During National Police Week, we honor those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others. In 2016, 252 fallen law enforcement heroes were added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Their sacrifice is not forgotten, and their families remain in our prayers during this week of remembrance.

The men and women who dedicate their lives to law enforcement not only keep our families safe, but they also help to preserve the way of life we hold so dear. They walk the neighborhood beats, patrol our streets, and willingly do the dangerous work that make our lives safer. They deserve our gratitude today and every day.

MICROSTAMPING LIMITS CHOICE

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, tonight I introduced H. Res. 731 expressing Congress' opposition to laws requiring that microstamping technology be included in handguns.

Time and time again, studies have shown that microstamping technology has failed to achieve any reliable effectiveness.

A study by the University of California, Davis—certainly no hotbed of support for the Second Amendment—recommended against imposing microstamping requirements, and the creator of the technology participated in a study which determined it did not work reliably.

Mr. Speaker, the only real impact of microstamping is to increase costs and make it more difficult for Americans to exercise their Second Amendment rights. Unfortunately, that is the true intent of these laws, not to increase safety, but to simply make it more difficult for law-abiding citizens to own firearms.

Even the Ninth Circuit Court agreed—the most overturned court in the country—just today that laws intended solely to prevent Americans from exercising their rights are unconstitutional.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to reject these laws and join me in standing up for the Second Amendment and join on to H. Res. 731.

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOST). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members