

Instead, the time has come to speak up and speak loudly like our lives and the world depend on it, as it truly does.

RECOGNIZING VICTORIA RIOS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize an outstanding young lady from our south Florida community, Victoria Rios.

Vicki is the winner of the 2016 Congressional App Challenge from my congressional district, and she is a remarkable senior high student at Gulliver Preparatory.

Her app, Simple Sign, was created out of the most noble and sincere desire to help those with hearing impairment, and her app was inspired by her special needs younger sister, Zoe.

Simple Sign is an easy-to-use app that includes photos and videos that helps individuals easily and quickly learn sign language through a cell phone or tablet.

The future of our great Nation relies on innovators from all backgrounds and walks of life in STEM careers, and I could not be more proud of Vicki choosing this extraordinary calling. I hope that this accomplishment will inspire her classmates, friends, and other young women across south Florida to pursue a career in STEM fields.

Congratulations, Victoria, and I cannot wait to see all of the amazing designs that you will create in the future.

2017 AIDS WALK MIAMI

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to encourage all of south Florida to participate in the 2017 AIDS Walk Miami on Sunday, April 23, at Soundscape Park located in my congressional district of Miami Beach.

This 5K walk through the streets of beautiful South Beach seeks to cultivate a culture of awareness and prevention, as well as help provide services for the more than 15,000 individuals who have been impacted by HIV/AIDS in our south Florida community.

Since 1989, this AIDS walk has been one of Miami's largest HIV/AIDS awareness charity event and continues to attract thousands of participants from all over the Nation who walk together to raise funds to prevent new infections, maximize the health outcomes and quality of life of those infected, and ultimately end the HIV/AIDS epidemic in south Florida.

Unfortunately, last year, south Florida led our Nation in AIDS-related deaths, and Miami was one of the Nation's top HIV hotspots.

This walk lends vital support to local groups and organizations, such as Care Resource and the Food for Life Network, that are working to transform the lives of patients and caregivers throughout our south Florida community.

The Food for Life Network food bank provides and delivers groceries, meals,

and nutritional education to men, women, and children living with HIV/AIDS in Miami-Dade County. Since 1987, its staff and volunteers have provided over 1.5 million meals and groceries as well as other crucial services, such as free screening for sexually transmitted diseases, free medical and dental care, access to health and nutrition specialists, and so much more, Mr. Speaker.

Care Resource is improving the health and quality of life of our diverse south Florida community, especially those impacted by HIV/AIDS, by providing essential health services, such as pediatric and dental care, immunizations, HIV primary care, and more.

It is because of the work and commitment of organizations like these that AIDS is no longer a death sentence and patients can live long and fulfilling lives.

So, again, Mr. Speaker, I invite everyone in south Florida to come out to the 2017 AIDS Walk Miami and help celebrate our great success against this disease and the great progress that we have achieved for the thousands living with HIV/AIDS in south Florida and to reaffirm our strong commitment to the work that is yet to be done.

Together we can achieve the goal of an AIDS-free generation in the near future.

COMMEMORATING THE WORK OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate one of the Nation's largest animal protection organizations, The Humane Society of the United States.

Each year, The Humane Society and its affiliates provide sanctuaries, veterinary programs, emergency shelters, and rescues to over 100,000 animals, leading in efforts to confront animal cruelty and providing care and services to many animals in need.

In addition, The Humane Society works tirelessly to educate and advocate by providing essential training and services to local shelters and animal groups lacking resources and through policy initiatives on both the State and national level.

Animal welfare and wildlife conservation are vital to our south Florida community. That is why, Mr. Speaker, I am so pleased to pay tribute to the outstanding commitment of all the volunteers of The Humane Society of the United States and wish all of them great success as we continue working together to combat animal cruelty and negligence to create a better world for all animals.

MILITARISM, MATERIALISM, AND RACISM

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, this is the 49th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. King, Jr., was, sadly, struck down in Memphis, Tennessee, by an aberrant

individual who wanted to kill him and chased him all over the country. It so happened that Memphis was the spot that he had that final opportunity.

In Memphis, there will be activities today celebrating the life of Dr. King and commitments to community service in his spirit.

Ironically, today, while it is the 49th anniversary of his assassination, it is also the 50th anniversary of his greatest speech, in my opinion. Not the "I've Been to the Mountaintop" speech that he made the night before in Memphis, the great speech where he said: I have been to the mountaintop, and I may not get there with you; but I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the promised land.

His greatest speech, in my opinion, was the speech at the Riverside Church in New York, in Manhattan, on April 4 of 1967, when he spoke of the three isms that bother this country and are the enemies of this country: militarism, materialism, and racism.

The speech was called "Beyond Vietnam." A prescient Dr. King saw the need to get out of Vietnam, to make a unilateral step, cease the bombing, save lives. He was indeed right about that. We should have gotten out of Vietnam then, but we didn't.

It was months later that Richard Nixon interfered with the peace process for political reasons and got word to Vietnam not to participate; that they might get a better deal from Nixon; and that stopped President Johnson from possibly concluding the war in 1968.

The racism, the militarism, and the materialism are still pervasive. Dr. King wouldn't like what he sees today. We have a budget giving 56 or \$57 billion extra to the military and cutting away from diplomacy efforts, foreign aid efforts that militate against war. And it takes away from funding for people, African Americans and poor people in America, who need government assistance.

That is part of what Dr. King was concerned about in this "Beyond Vietnam" speech. And here it is 50 years later and we still suffer with the same tight budget and the same misguided priorities.

We have an Attorney General who is looking at ending consent decrees on police violence against African Americans in Baltimore, Maryland, and also in Ferguson, a suburb of St. Louis, Missouri.

We are going the wrong direction, and it is sad that one of our greatest prophets and one of our greatest leaders told us about it 50 years ago.

Have we learned?

The disparity in wealth is greater than ever in this country. The rich are getting richer and richer and richer. It is incomprehensible that there are billionaires—and there are lots of them out there—and that the tax breaks that we offer in the Tax Code are going to give millionaires and billionaires hundreds of thousands and millions of dollars of tax breaks at the expense of

government programs for people who don't have enough.

There is no consideration of a minimum wage. And Dr. King was strong on believing that if people worked a full-time job, they shouldn't be paid a part-time wage.

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We need to go a lot further. We need to reflect on Dr. King's Riverside speech and understand that it is still a guide for us, and we need to look at a more understanding budget that cares about people first and not the military industrial complex that President Eisenhower warned us about; that we try to avoid wars through diplomacy and foreign aid and goodwill; and that we support our people with WIC programs and LIHEAP programs and Meals on Wheels and health care and public education; and that we try to give tax breaks to the middle class—large tax breaks, and not tax breaks to those who already have enough.

Thank you, Dr. King. You served us well. We mourn your loss. We remember your words.

CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF WIC

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children—or WIC—is a short-term intervention program designed to help ensure pregnant women and their children are able to meet healthy nutritional needs.

WIC began in 1972 as a supplemental food pilot program aimed at improving the health of pregnant mothers, infants, and children in response to a growing concern of malnutrition among low-income families. By 1974, WIC was operating in 45 States and became a permanent program in 1975.

WIC provides participants with monthly benefits redeemable for specific foods to supplement their diets, as well as related nutrition and health services. WIC provides quality nutrition education and services; breastfeeding promotion and education; a monthly food package; and access to maternal, prenatal, and pediatric healthcare services. WIC has served 8.3 million participants each month through 10,000 clinics nationwide in 2014; 806,000 pregnant women; 592,000 breastfeeding women; 575,000 postpartum women; 2 million infants; and 4.3 million children.

Mr. Speaker, numerous studies have shown that pregnant women who participate in WIC have longer pregnancies, leading to fewer premature births. They have fewer low and very low birth weight babies. They experience fewer fetal and infant deaths, and they seek prenatal care earlier in pregnancy and consume more of key nutri-

ents, such as iron, protein, calcium, vitamins A and C.

WIC has been addressing the nutrition and health needs of low-income families for more than 40 years. I rise today as chairman of the Agriculture Subcommittee on Nutrition but also as someone who knows firsthand how important WIC is for many Americans.

In the early 1980s, when my wife, Penny, and I were just starting out, we were eligible for WIC based on our income. We used WIC to supplement our personal resources at the time to ensure that Penny, who was expecting our first son, was healthy. Back then, WIC truly helped us supplement what we needed after our personal resources and the family assistance and support came into play.

Nutrition influences health at every stage of life. Good nutrition during pregnancy is especially important to support fetal development and protect mothers from pregnancy-related risks of gestational diabetes, excessive weight gain, hypertension, and iron deficiency anemia. Good nutrition in early childhood can promote development and foster healthy behaviors that may carry over into adulthood.

Mr. Speaker, the facts are clear: WIC works. Let's ensure this program remains viable for generations to come. WIC truly provides a competitive edge that will give everyone a fair shot at life—a fair start in life, and the American people deserve no less.

TRUMP'S GROWING LIST OF PERSONAL AND BUSINESS ENTANGLEMENTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NEWHOUSE). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to President Trump's ever-growing risk of personal and business entanglements. They call into question his ability to serve impartially in the interests of the American people. Both he and his administration remain closely linked to private companies and foreign entities whose interests are often in direct opposition to those of the United States.

For example, we are well aware of the increasing boldness of the Chinese regime and its efforts to extend their economic and military influence. Despite portraying China publicly as a threat to economic growth of the United States, the President has selected Goldman Sachs' executive, Gary Cohn, to be his director of the National Economic Council. That is about one of seven individuals from Goldman Sachs who have been brought into this administration. Mr. Cohn has just sold his \$16 million holding in a Chinese bank. This same state-owned Chinese bank also happens to be the largest tenant in Trump Tower in Manhattan. Isn't that a coincidence?

Wilbur Ross, President Trump's choice for Commerce Secretary, pre-

sents similar conflicts of interest. As a man who will play a major role in shaping U.S. trade policy, Mr. Ross continues to hold a stake worth tens of millions of dollars in the international shipping company, Diamond S Shipping Group, a company that not only operates ships that fly the Chinese flag, but those ships also call on ports in countries, such as Iran and Sudan, that are under U.S. sanctions for being state sponsors of terrorism.

We also know that The Trump Organization was recently awarded sole rights to the President's name for products sold in China. He had waited 10 years to get those rights. The case was settled just mere days after President Trump's phone call with Chinese President Xi Jinping, when the President reversed his prior stance on Chinese unification and gave a full-throated endorsement to what he termed "One China" policy. That was a reversal from what he had done just after the election.

Meanwhile, according to The New York Times, President Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, was recently negotiating a real estate deal worth hundreds of millions of dollars with a Chinese company closely tied to its government. And while it has been reported that the deal was called off, the fact that Mr. Kushner is continuing to negotiate private real estate deals while serving as a White House employee is deeply troubling.

It was announced last week that Ivanka Trump will now be joining her husband in the White House as an adviser to the President with top secret security clearance. While she has stepped down from her former role at her fashion licensing company that uses the Trump name, her decision to transfer her brand's assets into a trust run by her own brother-in-law—and her arrangement to continue to receive fixed payments from the company—is a matter of serious concern given her role in the administration.

The ever-growing list of valid concerns about the Trump administration's conflicting entanglements are taking place at the same time that the President is proposing \$18 billion in reductions for the 2017 appropriations process—while he himself, his daughter, son-in-law, and his Cabinet members continue to benefit off the American taxpayer.

While the President spends millions of tax dollars on securing his residences in New York and in Florida and flying to his so-called southern White House almost every weekend, he is slashing to zero the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative—an absolutely critical program that directly impacts my district and many others responsible for preserving the world's largest body of fresh water from serious and growing environmental threats. What is right about that?

President Trump also wants to eliminate TIGER grants, a highly successful transportation program that provides