

### CONGRATULATING LOCAL HERO THALIA RODRIGUEZ

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a young and valiant member of our south Florida community, Thalia Rodriguez. Just 17 years old, Thalia used her skills that she learned from her high school's emergency medical responder class to save the life of one of our Miami-Dade police officers.

Major Ricky Carter was off duty, traveling on his motorcycle, when an unexpected crash left him critically injured at the side of the road. Thalia came upon the scene, immediately began to apply first aid to the injured police major. Realizing that his injuries were too severe to wait for the first responders to arrive, Thalia made the split-second decision to fashion a tourniquet out of a belt, thereby buying Major Carter precious time. Thalia's brave act that Sunday morning saved Major Ricky Carter's life.

Thank you to Thalia Rodriguez, a graduating senior at Westland Hialeah Senior High School, for her outstanding heroism.

### CELEBRATING LADY BETTY COLES

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

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and celebrate the 90th birthday of Lady Betty Coles of Trenton, New Jersey. She was wonderfully celebrated this weekend at a party attended by over 100 family members and friends, thanks to her daughter and son-in-law, Tracy and Robert Ross.

Lady Coles has distinguished her family, church, and community with countless years of dedicated service, love, and leadership by example. She has enriched our community as charter member of the Epsilon Upsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha since 1952, and continues her years of service as a member of Shiloh Baptist Church.

Personally, I am grateful for her friendship, her stewardship, her mentorship, her leadership, and her dedication to not only New Jersey, but our global community.

May God continue to bless Lady Coles on this milestone year, and we are forever grateful to Him, having sent her our way.

### BRINGING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY TO ALL AMERICANS

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to join me

in support of the Financial CHOICE Act. Financial Services Committee Chairman JEB HENSARLING's bill aims to bring economic opportunity to all Americans.

After Speaker PELOSI and House Democrats passed the Dodd-Frank Act of 2010, dozens of small community financial institutions in my district were forced to close or merge with big banks. In fact, my State of Georgia has lost more than 40 of these institutions over this period of time. This was due to the unbelievable complexity and compliance costs of the regulations imposed on them.

With the Financial CHOICE Act, community banks will finally be able to get some relief from these regulations. As a businessowner myself, I know how important access to capital can be for a new business. We know that 70 percent of all new job creation is created by the growth of small business.

Once these banks are able to get back to the business of lending, my hope is that it will spur small-business growth and entrepreneurship in my district and across this great Nation.

This legislation also ends taxpayer-funded bailouts once and for all, finally fulfilling the promises that Democrats failed to keep.

And did I mention it reduces the deficit by \$33.6 billion over 10 years?

President Trump has asked us to do a number on Dodd-Frank, and I support him in this endeavor, and believe the Financial CHOICE Act does just that.

### INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, today, President Trump visited Ohio to tout his infrastructure plan. Well, Ohio needs the good jobs that direct national investment in infrastructure could provide, so my Democratic Ohio colleagues, Mr. RYAN, Ms. FUDGE, Mrs. BEATTY, and I sent President Trump a letter encouraging him to take a wide view of what infrastructure should encompass in States like Ohio.

We urged the President to consider upgrading our foundational assets, such as drinking water systems, our national electric grid, energy efficiency, roofing and lead removal in individual homes, plus modernizing roads and bridges, our seaports and waterways, our airports and rail systems. Indeed, infrastructure investments present the best opportunity to revitalize our battered domestic steel industry as well.

We hope President Trump's infrastructure plan won't lead to more broken promises like with his budget, which zeros out assistance for our Great Lakes. The President's plan lacks quantifiable specifics, but some warning signs are there. Privatization and tax breaks mean bearing down more costs on taxpayers through user fees and tolls.

Mr. Speaker, Americans expect more than showmanship. It is time for a real bipartisan jobs and infrastructure plan to help modernize America from stem to stern and keep her great for years to come.

### CONGRATULATING DEAN WILLIAM EASTERLING

(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, I rise today to recognize Penn State's own Dean William Easterling on his appointment to head the National Science Foundation's Directorate for Geosciences, or GEO.

Dr. Easterling was dean of Penn State College of Earth and Mineral Sciences prior to beginning his 4-year appointment last week. This is an incredible opportunity for Dean Easterling, and Happy Valley is most proud of his achievement.

Science was part of Dean Easterling's life from a very young age, as his father was a medical school physician. He told our local newspaper that he was taken at an early age by environmental sciences, geology, and weather, and these interests have always stuck with him.

Dr. Easterling has been the dean of Earth and Mineral Sciences at Penn State since 2007. He plans to return to the university after his appointment to the National Science Foundation.

I wholeheartedly congratulate Dean Easterling on this momentous achievement. I wish him the best over the next 4 years. And I know that his hunger for learning and his advanced research skills will serve this Nation well.

Congratulations, Dean Easterling.

□ 1715

### DISAPPROVING OF WITHDRAWAL FROM THE PARIS CLIMATE AC- CORD

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong disapproval of President Trump's decision to withdraw the United States from the international Paris Agreement on global climate change. The world is watching us, and history will judge this ill-considered decision harshly.

Withdrawing from the accord weakens America's global leadership, will slow our transition to renewable sources of energy, and make it more likely the clean energy jobs of tomorrow will be created overseas rather than here at home.

Let me be clear: Climate change is real and a present threat. America can and should be the global leader in developing innovative solutions, but this decision leaves us as an international outlier.

I am proud my hometown, Chicago, joins cities and States across the country that have pledged to continue honoring the emission reductions that are part of the Paris Agreement. That is why I am introducing a resolution to commend these States and localities and to urge the administration to reverse its position.

I invite my colleagues to join me. Irrespective of President Trump's shortsighted policies, we must continue to seek solutions to protect our planet for future generations.

#### IN MEMORIAM OF SPECIALIST ETIENNE J. MURPHY

(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 remember the life of Army Specialist Etienne J. Murphy, who died on May 26 when his vehicle overturned in Syria as part of Operation Inherent Resolve.

Specialist Murphy was raised in Loganville, Georgia, where, from an early age, he showed a keen interest in the American Armed Forces and for serving his country. He enlisted in the Army at 18 years old, and 2 years later he joined the 1st Battalion of the 75th Ranger Regiment, stationed at Hunter Army Airfield.

Murphy was just 5 days into his first deployment in Syria when his vehicle was involved in a nontactical rollover-related accident which is still under investigation.

Murphy's wife and two young sons continue to reside in Savannah, Georgia, where he was stationed.

Only a short time after Memorial Day, Specialist Murphy's passing reminds us all that freedom comes at a high price, and servicemen and -women face danger daily when fighting to preserve American values against terrorism.

I want to share my deepest condolences to his family and thank Specialist Murphy for his service, bravery, and sacrifice.

#### JAMES COMEY WILL TESTIFY

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow morning James Comey will address the Senate Intelligence Committee. I read his testimony today.

It is obvious to me that the President leaned on James Comey to try to get him to take actions in the Michael Flynn situation that were contrary to what Mr. Comey and I think justice would require, and that is an open investigation for the benefit of the American people and for the independence of the American Government in dealing with its relations with Russia.

I commend James Comey for being strong after being looked down on and

at by the President, trying to get him to ask for his job or pledge loyalty or commit to derail that investigation.

I thank him for his integrity. I thank him for his service to the FBI. And I certainly hope that no one will try to disparage his integrity or his honesty tomorrow.

#### LORAL O'HARA IS A MEMBER OF 2017 NASA ASTRONAUT CANDIDATE CLASS

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, my hometown of Sugar Land, Texas, is bursting with pride. A few hours ago, at the Johnson Space Center, Vice President PENCE announced that Loral O'Hara is a member of the 2017 NASA astronaut candidate class.

She is a native Texan. Her high school is in my neighborhood. She is a proud Clements High School Ranger, class of 2001. She has a bachelor's from a school in the former Republic of Texas, the University of Kansas, and a master's from Purdue University.

Growing up with astronauts, I know they like to take lots of huge risks, and by that standard, Loral is the most qualified candidate ever. She is a private pilot, an EMT, a wilderness first responder, a surfer, a sailor, a skier.

Currently, she works at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Center. That is perfect training for her because she will spend hours in the water at the Sonny Carter Neutral Buoyancy Lab outside the Johnson Space Center.

Loral, you know how to come home in style like only a Texas woman can do. You are an astronaut. Welcome home.

#### NATIONAL CANCER SURVIVORS DAY

(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, a few days ago on June 4, we recognized National Cancer Survivors Day to honor all of the incredible men and women who have battled cancer and have emerged triumphant.

This year, an estimated 1.6 million new cases of cancer will be diagnosed, and nearly 700,000 people will die of cancer in the United States.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention lists cancer now as the second leading cause of death. Fortunately, we are taking steps to lower those numbers. Last year's 21st Century Cures Act, a bipartisan initiative, authorized \$1.8 billion in funding for the Cancer Moonshot Foundation, aids in cancer research, and strives to increase the availability of a wide variety of treatment options while also helping to help prevent cancer and detect it at early stages.

Mr. Speaker, on National Cancer Survivors Day, we are grateful for those who have won their fight against cancer, and now we commit to honoring more survivors through research for new and improved cures.

#### IMMIGRATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. GABBARD) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Hawaii?

There was no objection.

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, our current immigration policies are hurting families, tearing them apart, and deporting people who are part of the very fabric of our communities.

I have a few people in particular I plan to talk about and whose stories I will be sharing, but first I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. O'ROURKE), my colleague and friend.

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentlewoman from Hawaii for yielding to me and for her leadership on this issue. I served with her for 2 years on the Homeland Security Committee of the House of Representatives and saw her ability to balance the national interests and capitalizing and maximizing the opportunity that immigrants provide and have always provided to the United States while ensuring that we protect the homeland and our sacred commitment to every person and family that we represent to make sure that they are safe.

I think that the community that I have the honor of representing in Congress, El Paso, Texas, is a case in point. We are one of the safest cities in the United States today.

If you use the FBI's crime statistics as crunched by CQ Press, they routinely rank El Paso, Texas, the safest city in not just the State of Texas, but in the United States. For the last 20 years, we have been the safest, second safest, or third safest in the country. That is not in spite of the fact that we are connected with Mexico—our sister city is Ciudad Juarez—and it is not in spite of the fact that 24 percent of the people that I represent were born in another country, most of them in Mexico.

In fact, our security, our success, our strength is connected to the fact that we are a city of immigrants, that we are connected to the rest of the world through our shared border with Mexico, and that understanding that is critical to preserving the security and public safety which is such a critical part of our job. I will give you an example.