

BRUCE HERSCHENSOHN BIRTHDAY
WISHES

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

Mr. McCINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of our Nation's greatest conservative minds and most eloquent voices, Bruce Herschensohn of California, on the occasion of his upcoming birthday.

I am told he is opposed to keeping an exact count of birthdays, either that or he has simply lost track, but it is a significant milestone and one for which his friends are grateful and his country is fortunate.

He served our Nation and the free peoples of the world in the U.S. Information Agency during the Cold War. Anyone who saw and was inspired by the classic tribute, "John F. Kennedy: Years of Lightning, Day of Drums," has Bruce Herschensohn to thank. He went on to serve President Nixon as both speechwriter and adviser.

Anyone who lived in southern California in the late 1970s or the 1980s will remember Bruce's incisive nightly commentaries on KABC-TV and his decisive debates with John Tunney. I can tell you that they fundamentally shaped my thinking and animated my career, and I often encounter others throughout the country who trace their political roots back to his nightly conservative homilies.

Through the darkest days of the Carter malaise, Herschensohn became a beacon of hope, helping to pave the way for the Reagan Revolution. He marshaled the self-evident truths of the American founding and introduced them to a new generation that was losing its memory of them. He connected the dots between freedom and its importance to the prosperity and happiness of our society and the stability of our world. He helped lay the foundation for the Reagan administration on the Presidential transition team.

If he had had any knack or inclination for raising money, he would have served many years in the United States Senate, and both California and the Nation would have been infinitely better for it.

He was one of the earliest voices to raise the alarm over Islamist terrorism and has been one of the strongest defenders of the State of Israel through all its travails and challenges of the past half-century.

But I believe his greatest influence is through the thousands of students who have had the good fortune to study under his tutelage at the Pepperdine University School of Public Policy for more than a decade. The full measure of his contributions to our Nation will be measured over the many years to come as his students take their place in shaping our Nation's policies over the next generation.

On behalf of so many who have been influenced, inspired, and ultimately motivated by the elegance of his rea-

soning and the eloquence of his words, I am honored to offer happy birthday wishes to Bruce Herschensohn today.

HONORING SENATOR KEVIN
O'TOOLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GOTTHEIMER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the retirement of New Jersey Senator Kevin O'Toole.

Like me, Senator O'Toole is a proud son of New Jersey. He was born to an Irish-American GI and Korean war refugee in Cedar Grove, New Jersey, where he still lives today with his wife, Beth. They are proud parents of two children, Kevin, Jr., and Ryan Marie.

Kevin's parents instilled in him a strong commitment to service that shaped his entire career. At age 25, Kevin was elected to the Cedar Grove Township Council and then mayor.

As assemblyman and State senator, Kevin has been a tireless advocate for small businesses, for law enforcement, first responders, our seniors, and our families. Like me, Kevin has been a strong advocate and force for lowering property taxes, supporting our veterans and first responders, cutting bureaucratic red tape, and strengthening domestic violence statutes. Kevin will soon continue his service at the New Jersey Port Authority, advocating for the critical infrastructure needed to drive economic growth.

He has been a true leader on business growth and streamlining regulations to attract companies to our State and encourage the ones in New Jersey to stay in New Jersey.

I applaud the high value Kevin has importantly placed on constituent service throughout his career as a legislator, a key and essential priority for any public servant. And Kevin has worked across the aisle with Republicans and Democrats alike, a practice that is essential in this time of gridlock.

As Kevin departs the Senate, we wish him all the best. I hope he enjoys more time with his family, many more rounds of golf, and I applaud and thank Kevin O'Toole, a true public servant.

HONORING FLORIDA HIGHWAY PA-
TROL MASTER SERGEANT WIL-
LIAM BISHOP

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

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart in honor of Florida's Highway Patrol Master Sergeant William Bishop, who lost his life in the line of duty on June 17 in Alachua, Florida.

Throughout three decades of public service, Master Sergeant Bishop demonstrated a clear and noble commitment to others. His tragic passing reminds us all of the real dangers that

law enforcement officers face on a daily basis.

So many are quick to criticize the police, yet they are the first ones they call when they need help.

I join my colleagues and friends in thanking all law enforcement personnel around the Nation standing ready to risk their lives to safeguard our communities.

Master Sergeant Bishop's memory will live on through his fellow officers, family, and members of the public whose lives were positively impacted through a selfless dedication. I ask that you keep his wife and son in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

RECOGNIZING DR. MARTHA ROBERTS

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Dr. Martha Roberts, a championed member of the Florida agricultural community and the latest recipient of the Florida's Woman of the Year in Agriculture award.

Dr. Roberts' esteemed career includes 35 years at the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. She is also a member of many Federal advisory groups, committees, and associations where her expertise has not only benefited the State of Florida but also the Nation.

More specifically, Dr. Roberts served as the director of the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Science program, a Federal-State-county partnership dedicated to developing knowledge in agriculture and natural resources located in my home district.

Through her work with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Roberts has helped shape policy that will advance Florida's agricultural industry and trades for years to come.

I would like to congratulate Dr. Roberts on her accomplishment and thank her for her dedication to agriculture and food safety. Her positive, meaningful contributions to Florida's Third Congressional District and the Nation will not be overlooked.

CONGRATULATING THE FLORIDA GATORS

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Florida Gators for winning their first ever College Baseball World Series.

Florida coach Kevin O'Sullivan never doubted that his Gators would win a national championship. It was just a matter of time. He has done a tremendous job coaching a talented roster of student athletes.

With this victory, UF becomes the first university in the SEC and only the fourth in the Nation to win a national championship in football, men's basketball, and now baseball. No one can ever take that away from this team or the Gator nation.

I stand with all UF alumni, the Rowdy Reptiles, and the entire Gator nation when I say I could not be more proud of this team and the finest academic and athletic institution in the State of Florida. Go Gators.

THANKING SECRETARY PERDUE AND USDA'S FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Secretary Purdue and the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service for implementing a suspension of all imports of fresh beef from Brazil.

I would also like to thank my colleagues from across the aisle for joining together to back this crucial step to ensure the health and safety of American families.

Since March, the USDA has blocked 11 percent of fresh beef from Brazil due to safety concerns. As one of the world's leaders in beef production, the United States has the responsibility to set the highest possible standards for what we allow in our Nation's kitchens, grocery stores, and restaurants.

Brazil is an important trading partner, and we value our mutually beneficial relationships, but we cannot allow this substandard with potential health hazards of beef to enter our food supply.

I am encouraged by the Brazilian Government's commitment to fixing these issues, and I look forward to reestablishing relationships with the Brazilian beef market as soon as we can be assured that its qualities meet the high standards of the USDA.

REPUBLICAN PARTY FEVER HAS NOT BROKEN

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

Mr. GALLEGOS. Mr. Speaker, in 2012, President Obama was speaking to some of his supporters in Minneapolis. They were eager to know how he was planning to make progress on key issues in his second term, given the uncompromising rabid opposition of the majority in this House.

Here is what President Obama said: "I believe that if we're successful in this election, when we're successful in this election, that the fever may break, because there's a tradition in the Republican Party of more common sense than that."

Five years later, I can say—we can all say—that the fever has not broken. The fever is running as hot as ever. The fever drove this House majority to threaten default on our Nation's debt, to shut down the Federal Government, to indulge racist birther conspiracies, to elevate the very champion of those conspiracies to the Presidency of the United States.

Ten years ago, I know Republican leaders could not imagine that kind of conspiracy would spread throughout the Republican Party rank and file, but it did and it has.

Five years ago, GOP leaders could not have imagined that their party would nominate Donald Trump and elect him to the Presidency, but they did.

One year ago, I know Republican leaders could not imagine that they would cover for the Trump campaign

and Trump administration's collusion with the Russian Government, but they have, and they are.

For far too long, Democrats have wanted to believe that the GOP would come to its senses. We wanted to believe that it was really just a fringe minority within the GOP that was the problem, that sober, sensible leaders like John Boehner and MITCH MCCONNELL wanted to do the right thing, but they couldn't because of the Tea Party. They couldn't unless we helped them.

And that is why Democrats bailed out Boehner time after time, jam after jam. Democrats have to stop deluding themselves. There is only one Republican Party, and it is the party of Trump.

It is the party whose Senate leader, MITCH MCCONNELL, blocked efforts by the Obama administration to stop Russian interference in the 2016 election. It is the party that every day looks the other way in the face of Trump's appeasement of Russia and fails to hold Trump accountable.

Last week, Congressman TED LIEU and I introduced two amendments to the National Defense Authorization Act that the House is debating currently on the floor.

The first would endorse the intelligence community's assessment regarding the Russian's meddling in our 2016 election. This is critical because Donald Trump has repeatedly cast doubt, as recently as yesterday, on the report that despite unanimous agreement from all of our intelligence agencies, that indeed there was collusion, that indeed there was interference by Russians.

The second amendment would block an outrageous Trump administration initiative to create a new cybersecurity partnership with the Russian Government. Trump's plan would let the fox into the henhouse and pave the way for more election interference in our upcoming elections and others, all at the invitation of Donald Trump.

These would have been two sensible steps that the House of Representatives could have taken this week to counter interference in our elections, but last night, the GOP leadership, under Chairman SESSIONS and the House Rules Committee, blocked these amendments. They refused to give these amendments a chance to be debated and voted on the floor.

As more and more information comes out about Russia, Americans all over the country keep hoping that the GOP will do the right thing, that they will put country before party and hold Trump accountable, but they have not, and they will not.

Just this past week, Donald Trump, Jr., himself released emails that show unequivocally the Trump campaign's eagerness to collude with the Russian Government, but that hasn't changed a thing.

It hasn't stopped Speaker RYAN from blocking a Russian sanctions bill at the Trump administration's request. It

hasn't stopped Chairman SESSIONS and the Rules Committee from blocking my amendment to set the record straight on Russian interference and help prevent it in the future.

The truth is, they are all complicit. It is time to recognize the GOP majority is not the victim here. They aren't suffering from a fever that Democrats have to help fight.

It is the United States Congress, as a whole, that has a fever, and it is the GOP's grip on the majority that is the cause.

It is time for us to face reality. The problem isn't the Tea Party, it is the Republican Party.

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RECOGNIZING FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, for more than 70 years, the Fulbright program, established by Congress, has forged connections between Americans and emerging leaders around the world. The Fulbright program has provided more than 370,000 participants, chosen for their academic merit and leadership potential, with the opportunity to exchange ideas and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns.

Each year the Fulbright program grants students with the opportunity to study, research, or teach English abroad in an effort to internationalize communities and campuses around the world.

I rise today to recognize the prestigious accomplishment of students from my district who received Fulbright scholarships for the 2016-2017 grant year.

Our proud congratulations to:

Kimberly Algeo of Newtown, a scholar in anthropology from Rider University, for her work in Japan;

Elizabeth Beavers of Yardley, a student from the University of Maryland, College Park, on an English teaching assistantship in South Korea;

Hunter Gabbard of Doylestown, a student in physics from the University of Mississippi, for his work in Germany;

Michael Galperin of Warminster, a student from Lafayette College, on an English teaching assistantship in South Korea;

William Lescas of Churchville, a student in political science from the University of Delaware, for his work in Denmark;

Ivan Simpson-Kent of Levittown, a student in biology from the University of Scranton, for his work in Germany;

And Dr. Paul Swann of Doylestown, a scholar in communications from Temple University, for his work in South Korea.

On behalf of the Eighth Congressional District of Pennsylvania, to all