

their loved ones and sent away from the only country they call home. Many of these children came as infants, growing up in the same playgrounds, schools, and neighborhoods as our own kids.

The President's decision targets millions of young people who contribute to our society, economy, and national identity every day. In New Jersey alone, there are over 22,000 DACA recipients who pay \$66 million in State and local taxes every year.

The emotional and economic impact of their deportation will be devastating, and New Jersey could lose \$1.58 billion annually in GDP.

America was built on the hard work of immigrants and our diversity is part of the foundation of our Nation.

It is long past due for Congress to step up and protect the millions of families that will be torn apart because of this inhumane decision. We must protect DACA and pass legislation to fix our broken immigration system.

RECOGNIZING MINNESOTA'S FEMALE TRACK AND FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR BY GATORADE

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

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding athlete from my district who was recently named Minnesota's Female Track and Field Athlete of the Year by Gatorade.

Anna Keefer, a 2017 graduate of St. Michael-Albertville High School, was chosen for this award due to her impressive ability on the track and the excellence she exudes in every aspect of her life.

Anna is a sprinter and jumper. Her accolades include three individual State titles at the Minnesota State High School League AA State Championship meet. She holds the all-time State record in the long jump. Anna also helped bring home the track team championship title to St. Michael-Albertville at the 2017 State meet.

In addition to recognizing Anna with this award, Gatorade also donated a \$1,000 grant in Anna's name to a non-profit of her choice. It gave the grant to the STMA Stallions, a local Special Olympics team, because of her friendships with some of the members on the team.

Anna is attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill this fall and plans to compete on the track team. We can't wait to see what she accomplishes next.

Anna, all of us in Minnesota are so proud of you, and we wish you all the best in your future.

RETURN TO CHAOS

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, we return to Capitol Hill amidst chaos—wildfires in the West, choking smoke in my community, the cruelty of 800,000 young people having their lives turned upside down unnecessarily by Trump yesterday, and we are dancing with the debt ceiling chaos with the world economy. All are made unnecessarily worse. Even Harvey was predictable due to government action and inaction.

Congress should stop pretending these things are beyond our control. A majority of Congress would treat young DREAMers, fairly if given a right to vote for it on the floor of the House.

We should fund disaster prevention, including forest fires, and stop subsidizing more floods, and not play unnecessary games with the world economy, pretending we won't pay for money we have already spent.

In the end, we will probably spend the next 3 weeks setting up the next crisis later in the year.

Isn't it time that Congress stop playing the victim and take charge?

RECOGNIZING CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITALS

(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 acknowledge the outstanding performance of Pennsylvania's critical access hospitals.

Before I was elected to serve in the House of Representatives, I spent nearly 30 years in the healthcare field. I am most proud to see Pennsylvania recognized in the top 10 States by the Health Resources and Services Administration for quality performance.

With the help of funding from the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, Pennsylvania's critical access hospitals are able to invest in quality improvement projects and new technical assistance resources to better care for their patients.

Pennsylvania is home to 15 critical access hospitals that provide service to the most rural areas in our State. Since 1991, the Pennsylvania Office of Rural Health has dedicated its efforts to ensure that these hospitals constantly improve the quality of care they provide to their patients.

Rural hospitals are critically important to our communities. They may be limited in resources, but they are committed to providing the best care possible to patients.

I am proud of our Pennsylvania critical access hospitals, and I congratulate them on this national recognition.

PROTECT DACA

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

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the DACA program.

Since the announcement of the end of this important program, I have heard from countless DREAMers who, in a word, are terrified. These are young people who are brought to our country as children and are now living, studying, and working in our communities.

One constituent's story, in particular, has stayed with me. This young woman was brought to our country at the age of 5. America is the only home she has ever known.

She was raised in San Diego, educated in San Diego, and now works in San Diego helping other immigrants transition more seamlessly into our society.

The administration's decision to end DACA is a broken promise to her, the 40,000 DREAMers in San Diego, and the 800,000 DREAMers across the country.

But even in the face of this betrayal, she called on us to "act with love and lead with inclusion."

With this call to action in mind, I hope my colleagues commit to protecting the DACA program and DREAMers.

REMEMBERING SERGEANT STEVE PEREZ

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as Hurricane Harvey rampaged across Texas, the heavens opened up and 50 inches of rain hammered down on the Houston area.

After 2 days of hard rain, on August 27, 60-year-old Houston Police Officer Sergeant Steve Perez got up, as he does every morning, put on the badge, the shield over his heart, and began to drive to work to help rescue flood victims. It was dangerous. The floodwaters were high and constantly rising. People's homes and businesses were flooding. Perez's wife even asked him not to go that day. But, Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Perez knew the people of Houston were counting on him.

He made a wrong turn when he was headed to work, fighting the flooded streets. Because of that, the 34-year veteran of the force, Sergeant Perez, died in the floodwaters. He gave his life for the thin blue line, the line that protects and serves the rest of us.

Officers like Sergeant Perez are just a cut above the rest of us. They willingly put themselves into harm's way for their communities, and their motto is to protect and to serve.

Houston will remember Texas lawman Sergeant Perez as one of their own, putting his life on the line during one of the worst natural disasters in Texas history.

Next week, as hundreds of officers from all over the State of Texas and other States stand in silence, taps will be played for the end of watch for Sergeant Perez. Sergeant Perez is one of the rare breed—the Texas breed of law officers that sacrifice for the rest of us.

While we mourn the loss of Sergeant Perez, we thank the good Lord that such men ever lived.

And that is just the way it is.

NATIONAL AUCTIONEERS DAY

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

Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, first off, I want the folks in Texas and Louisiana to know that South Carolina continues to pray for the folks that live in the affected areas, and all of the States that are facing a potential hurricane.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to express support for designation of the first Saturday of May as National Auctioneers Day and the preceding week as National Auctioneers Week. Auctioneering is one of history's oldest professions.

I was an auctioneer for 16-plus years before coming to Congress. As an auctioneer, I saw firsthand the purest form of buying and selling. Auctions bring buyers and sellers together where the highest price is established through competitive bidding.

Auctions continue to be the fairest, most transparent and effective means of establishing fair market value.

The National Auctioneers Association and its members strive to advance the auction method of marketing and uphold the highest standards of professionalism in serving the American public. These professionals are proud businessowners who support their communities.

For more than 40 years, National Auctioneers Day has been observed by State and local governments and private organizations across the U.S. The designation of National Auctioneers Day and National Auctioneers Week will heighten the public awareness of the contributions made by auction professionals to our Nation's history and economy.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon the House of Representatives to support this designation and America's auctioneers.

□ 1015

GROWING OUR NAVY

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

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to once again emphasize the urgent imperative of growing our Navy to 355 ships. This body is now on record in support of a 355-ship Navy, and the recent tragedies at sea only serve to reinforce the inadequate capacity of our current fleet.

While the size of our Navy has shrunk from over 500 ships at the end of the Cold War to less than 280 ships today, the demand for deployed ships has remained relatively constant between 85 and 100.

This steady demand on the fleet, coupled with tight budgets and habitually

underfunded maintenance counts, has taken a serious toll on our sailors.

Growing the fleet is no easy task. It will take constant leadership and attention. In his confirmation hearing, Secretary Spencer rightly spoke about creative levers the Navy could pull to get to 355, including bringing ships out of the ready reserve, yet we need more urgency, we need that sense of urgency that Secretary Spencer talked about in his mission, vision, and priorities document. This must extend to growing the fleet as quickly as is practical. Every day, month, and budget year that goes by without significant progress towards 355 makes this urgent requirement that much less likely to materialize.

Mr. Speaker, there is not a moment to lose. We must make growing the fleet our number one priority.

RECOGNIZING GIANA ZAMBELLI AND OLIVIA CAMERON

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Giana Zambelli and Olivia Cameron. These two 9-year-old girls from Bensalem, Pennsylvania, spend their free time running a local Kool-Aid stand which they call Kool-Aid for Kenny.

The proceeds from their sales benefit the Kenneth Hopkins Memorial Scholarship Fund created in 2016, to award students currently pursuing a career in emergency services.

Mr. Speaker, Ken Hopkins was an emergency medical technician with the Bucks County Rescue Squad and a volunteer firefighter with the Croydon Fire Department. He passed away in June 2016, after struggling with post-traumatic stress disorder from his time serving our community and saving lives as a first responder.

Mr. Speaker, the selfless acts of Giana and Olivia are truly inspiring to all of us. Their remarkable work continues to make Ken's dream a reality in the hopes that others continue to save lives and help those in need, just as Ken Hopkins did his entire life.

Ken, Giana, and Olivia are an inspiration to our entire community.

FREEDOM IN EASTERN EUROPE

(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, as a lifelong cold warrior promoting victory over communism, it was a dream come true to lead a bipartisan delegation to Eastern Europe in early August reaffirming America's commitment to our new NATO allies in the European Reassurance Initiative.

We know that peace through strength will be successful. The vision of Barry Goldwater and Ronald Reagan has been achieved.

Visiting with military and government leaders in Romania, Bulgaria, Latvia, Lithuania, Georgia, and Poland, we saw dynamic and prospering American allies achieving world-class defensive capabilities with their professional military fully equipped with the latest technologies.

In both Warsaw and Tbilisi, President Donald Trump and Vice President MIKE PENCE made it clear America will protect these new democracies.

I was inspired as an election observer in Bulgaria in 1990, and have seen this country evolve from totalitarianism to the now dedicated democracy led by Prime Minister Boyko Borissov.

I was grateful to be accompanied by my youngest son, Hunter, an Afghanistan veteran, as we witnessed freedom in these countries in stark contrast to the year Hunter was born in 1987, when all six countries were enemies to the United States and were suffering under communist dictatorships.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

EMERGENCY FUNDING FOR HURRICANE HARVEY

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

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the hundreds of thousands of victims of Hurricane Harvey in Houston and Harris County and throughout Texas and call on Congress to immediately pass emergency funding to help victims with this unprecedented disaster.

Our district in east side, north side, and southeast side Houston, Harris County, is familiar with hurricanes and tropical storms. We were hit hard by Allison in 2001, again by Hurricane Ike in 2008.

Harvey's destruction is beyond anything witnessed in living memory in Texas, flooding over 100,000 homes in Harris County alone, killing at least 60 people, 12 innocent victims in our own district.

Countless lives in Houston and along the Gulf Coast have been on hold: families who cannot return to their flooded homes, children whose schools are damaged, mothers and fathers who can't get back to work.

I urge my colleagues to vote for this critical emergency funding bill today that will help the people of Houston and Harris County and Texas on the road to recovery.

RECOGNIZING GEORGIA MJARTAN

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

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Georgia Mjartan of Little Rock. She is the executive director of Our House and is stepping down after 12 years.