

be a bell ringing, and there will be civil rights leaders from all over the country in Memphis to mark the occasion: our own JOHN LEWIS, Andrew Young, Danny Glover, and Cary Kennedy. There are so many that I shouldn't start, but they will be there to honor Dr. King's memory.

Dr. King's dream is not fulfilled yet. We need to continue to work to make his dream fulfilled in this country to where everybody, regardless of their race or their gender, for that matter, or their sexual orientation, has an opportunity to climb ladders of opportunity to participate in the American Dream and have a successful life and be a part of the middle class, if possible.

I hope everybody will give some thought to Dr. King and his dream on April 4.

THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

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

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support President Trump's plan to tackle the opioid epidemic, a crisis that has plagued communities and devastated families all across Indiana.

In Indiana, roughly 40 percent more people die from drug overdoses than they do from car accidents. Since 2010, opioid-related deaths have nearly tripled in my State.

It is past time to address the opioid epidemic and get serious about saving lives.

Growing up in the 1980s, Nancy Reagan's Just Say No campaign had a real impact on my life, and I applaud President Trump's plan to do more to educate young people about the horrific effects of drug use.

I also support the President's plan to address the opioid crisis by securing our border, stopping the flow of drugs pouring into our country, and reducing rampant prescription drug abuse. The President is right. For the worst drug traffickers, the death penalty should be an option.

Today we took a big step in the right direction, but more must be done to help families dealing with the devastating effects of opioid abuse.

□ 1330

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE WALK

(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, today I rise in support of the annual Walking 4 Friendship event.

This past March 18, friends, families, and neighbors from my congressional district walked three kilometers to promote awareness and acceptance of children, teens, and young adults with special needs.

More than 1,000 of my constituents walked to raise support for The Friendship Circle of Miami. This volunteer organization provides a number of social, recreational, and educational programs for some of the most vulnerable members of our society and helps them build lasting friendships.

Mr. Speaker, the positive impact of The Friendship Circle is felt widely throughout our community and brings so much joy and comfort to young people with special needs and their families.

I would like to thank the countless volunteers and local sponsors who make this organization and this wonderful annual event possible. Let us not forget their theme: Together, we can perform miracles.

MARY'S CUPBOARD

(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 bring attention to the issue of food insecurity, affecting nearly 1.6 million people in my home State of Pennsylvania. In our district, that is 1.6 million too many.

I am proud to recognize the efforts of Mary's Cupboard in Levittown, Pennsylvania, a food pantry which has served nearly 86,000 individuals since its inception in 1976. Operating in conjunction with Catholic Social Services, Mary's Cupboard offers both perishable and nonperishable food items. Their standard practice is to provide a family with 5 days' worth of food.

I would like to recognize founder Marion Slack and operations coordinators Betty Rommet and Ann Hyjurick, who, along with the assistance of partnering parishes St. Ignatius in Yardley, St. Andrew in Newton, St. Cyril of Jerusalem in Jamison, and St. Michael the Archangel in Levittown, bring hope and peace of mind to their neighbors on a daily basis.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of us to follow their lead and work to eradicate hunger in all of our communities.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 4760

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 4760.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

NEW HARTFORD, NEW YORK, CELEBRATES ITS 230TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 230th anni-

versary of the settlement of my hometown, New Hartford, New York.

New Hartford was settled in early 1877 by Jedediah Sanger, who was in search of the American Dream. By 1789, Jedediah had brought his entire family to New Hartford and built a sawmill and gristmill. The village began to flourish with farmers who provided New Hartford and the surrounding communities with fresh produce and a variety of dairy products.

Today, the town of New Hartford strives to maintain Jedediah Sanger's original vision and ideas. It is home to numerous retail stores, restaurants, and churches, while remaining an extremely civic-minded and generous community.

In fact, our own New Hartford Central School District, my alma mater and the same school from which my son graduated from 30 years later, consistently ranks as one of the very best schools in New York State and among the top public schools in the country.

Fun fact: I actually live across the street from the house I grew up in, my childhood home, and I now live in a home that I purchased from our former Congressman, Alexander Pirnie, who once served in this great Chamber.

Please join me in honoring and celebrating the 230th anniversary of New Hartford, New York.

SALUTING CAREGIVERS OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

(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, I rise today to salute the caregivers who support those living with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia in our community.

Over 5 million Americans have Alzheimer's disease, including 5,000 in my home county of Butte in northern California. It is also the most expensive disease in America. Medicare and Medicaid pay two-thirds of all the costs. This is unacceptable and unsustainable.

This is a tremendous burden to our country. From my perspective, if we are going to have a shot at reducing government spending, we have to advance the movement to cure Alzheimer's and do something to lower the cost of care and also reduce the burden on families who suffer as they watch their loved ones dealing with this disease.

This is why I joined 32 of my House colleagues in cosponsoring the BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act. This would create a public health response to Alzheimer's and would help educate community members and doctors on dementia detection, diagnosis, symptom management, even brain health and prevention of dementia.

I will continue to fight for quality, affordable healthcare for seniors nationwide. We must do everything in our

power to preserve Medicare and Medicaid for future generations.

FUNDING ISSUES

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, just a few minutes ago, we passed a major omnibus appropriations bill, of which I had the privilege of submitting over 30 requests. Frankly, I am thankful for the funding I received on behalf of the 18th Congressional District of Texas. It is a tradition that I pride myself in. I also take pride in the work of the Appropriations Committee in working on behalf of the American people.

It is also important to take note of the fact that—as we have done positive things, it is also important to note some issues that I have concern with.

First of all, I want to acknowledge that there is no limit for the funding for Planned Parenthood, which is part of my constituency, which helps young women with their health. There is opioid funding and VA funding. I am most happy with the childcare funding and for TIGER grants.

But what we need more of, even though we had 450,000 new certificates for the disabled, is Section 8 vouchers for seniors and families. We need to be able to insist that the quality of housing is best.

As I finish, Mr. Speaker, let me just say that in the effort to stop school gun violence, I am disappointed that there are no civil rights protections to make sure we aren't pointing out Hispanics and Latinos differently from other children, as well as no DACA relief for our children.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will recognize Members for Special Order speeches without prejudice to the resumption of legislative business.

NORTH KOREA DIPLOMACY

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to come to the American people because I truly believe that when it comes to the national security of this Nation, we are of one belief, one faith, and singularly committed to the security of each and every American. I know that because our hearts break when any of our men and women fall in battle while wearing that uniform.

I have spent a lot of time with families who have lost loved ones throughout the wars that have occurred during

my tenure in the United States Congress. I have been to the veterans' cemetery. I have joined my neighbors on Memorial Day. I have held my own Memorial Day commemoration for at least the last 5 years. Neighbors have come out from all over the community to honor those who live and served our Nation, but those who have fallen as well.

I believe it is important, then, to evidence in your congressional work as well as evidence in this country, through the leaders who are serving this Nation, being truthful as well as diplomatic. I have no quarrel with the issues of diplomacy.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I have no quarrel with the idea of diplomacy. I believe that even your enemies deserve the opportunity to explain themselves.

So, as Secretary Tillerson had mentioned some months ago, he was interested in some encounter with North Korea. He described that it would take some time and that some initial meetings make sense.

We have not been able to change the minds of the North Koreans and their attitudes toward nuclear proliferation for decades, though we came close during the time of President William Jefferson Clinton, but counsel advised him not to go further. I am sure he reflects on that. All of us wonder. That was with the father, Kim Jong-un.

Diplomacy is a reputable and reasonable approach to safeguard and secure the American people. I have taken on the responsibility as someone who has served on the Homeland Security Committee since the heinous, tragic terrorist act of 9/11—and I now serve on the Counterterrorism and Intelligence Subcommittee and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection Subcommittee, having served on the Transportation and Protective Security Subcommittee as chair, and on the Immigration and Border Security Subcommittee—and I share the importance of our national security.

Now, as the ranking member of the Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations Subcommittee, where it is important as well to assess the threats against United States, I have come to believe the importance of developing an expertise in these national security issues so that we can share with our constituents and also advocate here in the Congress what more we should be doing. I truly believe that we should be doing more.

So, before I frame the complete aspects of my discussion that will involve

Trump and the need to protect the independence of the special counsel, but, more importantly, Trump and Russia and the intertwining of the highest office in the land and the actions of Vladimir Putin, most of us have known the idea of the Soviet Union and Russia for most of our lives. Russia is somewhat of a new phenomena, as the Soviet Union was broken up. The memories of the Soviet Union and the Iron Curtain and the idea of an insulated, frightening, frozen land that did not allow any of its subjects, including the many countries that came under the Soviet Union, to speak a word, silent or not, against the government, was a fearsome and fearful place.

If history recounts, that was the Cold War. That was a moment in time for schoolchildren taking cover under. That was the time of President Kennedy's actions and almost the brink of war with Khrushchev. Those were moments the American people could understand. They demanded that the United States not be frail or a failure against Russia.

I do not ignore World War II, when Russia was a collaborator in the efforts of the allies. I don't ignore that. But after that time, it was their choice to stand up against the world and to stand up in a frightening way until the doors seemingly began to crack open.

I, for one, as a student, welcomed and cherished that possibility that Russia would turn to democratic ways—at least, ways of giving opportunity to its people, giving them free speech, giving them the ability to make decisions for themselves, and to vote in fair elections.

For a period of time, that was seemingly the direction that they were going after President Reagan said: "Tear down that wall."

What a bright light. I think it is important to note these Republican and Democratic Presidents who understood what our role was and is.

What is America's role?

If you travel in the most limited way, no matter what continent you go to, you will find that the people of the continent look to America for hope, for the standard bearer of democracy and human rights.

□ 1345

And if no one else turns on the light and shines it on the dastardly behavior of the despotic leaders, they can always count on America to make a difference.

That is what I have grown to know as a Member of the United States Congress. That is the side of the line on which I have stood. Not out of anger, not out of disregarding the differences of world leaders, but of recognizing what America's responsibility is and how disappointed and hurt I am that we find ourselves perplexed.

The world is perplexed. Ask any diplomatic traveler coming back from any conference, country, meeting, outside