

which earned them the top prize in New Jersey's Fourth Congressional District App Challenge.

Several weeks ago, the team came to the Capitol, where they were nationally recognized.

Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege of seeing the app in action when I visited the high school in February and was struck by the extraordinary care and kindness of the winners and, frankly, all the students in the class. These young people are truly amazing.

Allow me, Mr. Speaker, to say a brief word about the teacher, Nick Gattuso.

After the terrorist attacks of 9/11, Mr. Gattuso was so inspired by the selflessness of so many that he left a highly successful career at Bell Labs and took an early retirement and huge pay cut to teach because he said he just wanted to give back to others. He said he was too old to be a firefighter and too old to be a cop, but he chose the noble profession of teacher.

Today, with great skill, energy, and passion, Mr. Gattuso teaches his students, in his words, "how to use their programming, engineering, and problem-solving skills for good." Lunch Buddy app epitomizes that good.

Lunch Buddy app, Mr. Speaker, sprang out of a broader initiative to create a better learning environment for students with disabilities. In 2012, Point Pleasant Borough High School established The Panther Assisted Learning Software, or PALS, with the stated goal of "providing students with multiple disabilities differentiated assistive learning technologies and to promote increased independence and vocational sufficiency."

Additionally, PALS was created to overcome specific barriers to learning and to facilitate increased interaction between special needs students and their nondisabled peers. It is a wonderful program that teaches important lessons that last a lifetime, and I believe this program needs to be replicated in every high school in the country.

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The Lunch Buddy app is one of several real-world, operational apps that are enhancing the learning and community environment at Point Pleasant. Other apps, for example, assist students with their class schedules, money management, and résumé building and are developed in close collaboration with special needs students in the life skills class.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, the Congressional App Challenge itself was created to allow students in STEM fields who also work in computer programming an opportunity to showcase their software application achievements. These STEM fields are central to the global workforce of the future, and it is critical for our students to have opportunities like this challenge to further develop expertise in computer programming and work with teammates to enhance their collective creativity.

We all know that integrating into the academic and social environments at school can be difficult for many students, especially and including those with a disability. As the founder and co-chair of the Congressional Autism Caucus, I have heard stories from countless families with children with autism who struggle.

So I am especially grateful to our four designers of the Lunch Buddy app who showed both great technical skill and compassion. They put their expertise toward the service of others.

Mr. Speaker, the world awaits what they and other students in that class have to offer.

#### NORTH KOREAN NEGOTIATIONS

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

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, for 22 years, I have served on the Foreign Affairs Committee and focused on North Korea. For two decades I have urged the toughest possible pressure not only on North Korea, but on China, North Korea's lifeline.

Just last month I joined Chairman YOH of the Asia Subcommittee, where I serve as ranking member, in sending a letter insisting that we have tougher enforcement of our sanctions on large Chinese banks and other entities that supplied the necessary services to Kim Jong-un.

When the possibility of a summit was announced, the foreign policy community came forward with a unified message: No concessions until we get CVID, or the complete, verifiable, irreversible dismantlement of North Korea's nuclear program.

I found myself on the dovish edge of the foreign policy community. While I supported tougher sanctions, I believe that we should settle for a verifiable limit, a freeze and monitoring, a system where there is no cheating and where we can be sure that they are not selling their nuclear weapons to other even more dangerous parties.

So I eagerly awaited Singapore. What we saw was a President that put into practice what he wrote about when he wrote his famous book, newly reissued and retitled, *Trump: The Art of the Capitulation*.

What are the steps in capitulation?

First, give the other side just about everything.

Second, accept in return vague platitudes.

Third, go on TV and announce that you have got the best deal ever.

What did we get from North Korea?

A temporary suspension of their most extreme barbarism. They agreed to release and did release three hostages. They said they will allow us to look for the bodies of our fallen heroes from the Korean War. They did not release the Japanese hostages, but they did release three American hostages.

They implicitly agreed, though not explicitly, to an end of testing. But

testing is hardly necessary once you have already proven your capacity. Russia has the capacity to destroy American cities, but they haven't tested a nuclear weapon since 1990. Why? They proved it long ago.

Likewise, North Korea has proven the capacity of its nuclear weapons. They don't need further testing. They have missiles that can kill tens of thousands of Americans and millions of our allies in Tokyo, Seoul, and elsewhere in Asia. They have the capacity to smuggle their nuclear weapons near or into any of our West Coast cities. They have that capacity. They don't need further testing.

So they have given very little, but they gave one more thing. They pronounced the word denuclearization. This is the epitome of a vague platitude. For when North Korea says denuclearization, they say will give up their nuclear weapons when the whole world gives up its nuclear weapons; when, in the words of the Good Book, swords are beaten into plowshares.

So what have we given up?

First, we gave them what the Kim dynasty has always wanted: that face-to-face equality with an American President.

Second, we have relaxed our sanctions, in effect.

No, the statutes haven't changed. But those big banks that Chairman YOH and myself as ranking member once sanctioned, no way that is going to happen. Businesspeople in Moscow and Beijing know it is now time to move forward with business deals with North Korea.

Also, he declared our military exercises to be provocative. What does that mean worldwide when an American President says: We better not train our troops; that is warlike?

In the words, of Admiral Stavridis, who wrote in *Time Magazine* just a few days ago: "These are operational military exercises in which ships, aircraft, and ground forces . . . practice executing defined war plans." To have our forces forward deployed without the benefit of that kind of practice would be negligent in the extreme and would lead to major combat losses in a real fight.

Trump is saying these exercises are expensive. It is hardly expensive to train our troops.

We have got a long way to go. We need to enforce the sanctions and make them tougher. We have to do this until we get a complete declaration of their nuclear materials, a verification, and a freeze.

#### HONORING RABBI JOEL SIMON

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a faith leader in our community who has made a tremendous impact on individuals in our home in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

Rabbi Joel Simon of the Shir Ami Synagogue in Newtown, has been a transformative force in providing spiritual guidance to his congregants. During his tenure, Mr. Speaker, at the Reform congregation, Joel has made great strides to enhance the educational environment for the over 700 families who attend Shir Ami. A strong proponent of strengthening Jewish identity, Rabbi Simon oversees community building exercises such as yoga, youth groups, and theater trips.

Rabbi Simon will be departing Shir Ami on Saturday to return to his home in Florida. While he will be dearly missed by our community, we are sure that he will flourish in his next chapter. We wish him; his wife, Jacent; and their entire family all the best going forward.

#### BUCKS COUNTY HEROES

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize several individuals from our community in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, who administered first aid that would ultimately save the life of a beloved school bus driver.

In January, Janet Lapsley suffered a life-threatening medical emergency. Discovered unconscious by fellow bus driver Bob Fay, Janet was found to be lacking a pulse. With the help of Bob and drivers Brent Briggs, Danny Shimp, and Jeff Randolph, Janet received CPR and oxygen. With the assistance of school nurse Dawn Fulton and athletic trainer Katie Holmes, Janet received the additional treatment she needed to survive while first responders were on the way.

I would like to commend the first responders, who worked collectively and professionally to save Janet's life. They are Ottsville Fire Company Chief William Shick, Deputy Chief James Keogh, Firefighter and EMT Jeff Lauble, and Junior Firefighter Evelyn Keogh.

The weekend following this health scare, Janet's brain activity hovered between 3 percent and 5 percent. However, with the help of a team of doctors and many prayers, Janet slowly recovered and is now working as a monitor on bus 97, continuing to assist the children she cares so deeply about.

I would like to thank Bob, Brent, Danny, Jeff, Dawn, Katie, William, James, Jeff, and Evelyn for their courageous actions. Their knowledge and quick thinking truly saved the life of a dedicated community servant. I encourage all of my constituents to follow their lead and, as an EMT, educate themselves on the power of first-aid techniques to save lives every single day.

#### HONORING THE WORK OF TEACHERS MARC CUTILLO AND JOAN SAVION

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a teacher in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, who is working to break down barriers both in and out of the classroom.

Marc Cutillo, a biology teacher and special education teacher at William

Tennent High School in Warminster, was recently a recipient of the Teacher as Hero award from the National Liberty Museum and State Farm Insurance. He was honored for his work teaching a science class for students which doubles as an English language class. Additionally, Marc has teamed up with fellow William Tennent teacher Joan Savion to establish Aquí Para Ti, a community group that seeks to strengthen relationships with the Latino community in the Centennial School District.

I applaud Marc and Joan for their work in bridging the language and learning gap for students in our community. By giving them the tools to succeed, Marc and Joan are paving a brighter future for the next generation.

#### OPIOID EPIDEMIC

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. STEFANIK) for 5 minutes.

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, my district and communities across our Nation are being ravaged by the heroin and opioid epidemic. This crisis touches our homes, our friends, and our families in ways that have grave effects on everyday people and everyday lives.

Over the last 15 years, heroin-related deaths have quadrupled across our country. In 2016, over 3,600 New Yorkers died of an opioid overdose, with fatalities in some counties in my district doubling and tripling.

This is why, since arriving in Congress, I have worked with my colleagues on the Bipartisan Heroin Task Force to pass the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act, the 21st Century Cures Act, and to provide over \$4 billion in funding to fight this epidemic. But we must continue to attack this epidemic head-on, which is why we are passing a package of bills this week to prevent addiction, encourage treatment and recovery, and improve law enforcement to keep our communities safe.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to continue this incredibly important bipartisan work so that the families we represent can get the relief they need.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 58 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

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#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Eternal God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We thank You, once again, that we, Your creatures, can come before You and ask guidance for the men and women of the people's House.

There are many issues facing this Congress in these and coming days. Some are quite contentious; all are of importance to so many of our citizens and residents.

Bless each Member with wisdom and insight into the many implications of their legislative actions so that all Americans rest assured that Your Spirit is at work in the business of the people's House.

Bless us this day and every day. May all that is done here be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MATSUI) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. MATSUI led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

#### RECOGNIZING ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS MONTH

(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 rise today in recognition of Alzheimer's Awareness Month.

Sadly, Alzheimer's is one of the fastest growing, costliest, and deadliest epidemics facing our Nation. I am all too familiar with the pain and heartbreak surrounding this dreadful disease because my mother passed away in 2011 due to complications from Alzheimer's.

It is important to note that my experience is not unique. Over 5.7 million Americans are living with this disease, including half a million Floridians. That is why I am a staunch advocate for Alzheimer's research funding.

I am also proud to have recently cosponsored H.R. 4256, the BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act. This bill