

In closing, I want to remind everyone, my colleagues, and those watching at home on C-SPAN that mental health is something that we can all work on. Simple, small, everyday things can make a huge difference. Here is my personal top five.

First, take care of your body. It is all connected. Even a little bit of exercise or even a little more sleep can improve mood, reduce stress, and improve your health all around.

Second, find a stress management strategy that works for you. For some, it is reading or running, while for others, it is coffee with friends or takeout and a movie. Do whatever works for you.

Third, surround yourself with good people, be it family, friends, or someone you can trust in your community.

Fourth, volunteerism is a great way to get out of your own head and give back to your community. It is good for you and great for your community.

Finally, if you or someone you love needs help, please get it. Don't let stigma hold you back.

Mr. Speaker, as Minority Mental Health Awareness Month comes to a close, let's cure stigma.

HONORING THE BURLE FAMILY

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

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ryan and Abby Burle of Gainesville for creating a book drive for families with newborns who are receiving lifesaving medical treatment.

The couple was inspired to establish the Mighty Three neonatal intensive care unit book drive after their triplets, Maggie, Max, and Miller, underwent medical treatment in Northeast Georgia Medical Center following their births. For months, Ryan and Abby could not hold their babies while they received crucial medical attention.

As teachers, the young couple decided that they could leverage reading to communicate with the triplets using the sound of their voice to develop a bond with the three tiny patients. The Burles designed the Mighty Three NICU book drive to give families two books for each baby receiving treatment at Northeast Georgia Medical Center's Gainesville hospital.

Initially, the couple set out to collect 850 books but quickly surpassed that goal. Through their tireless work, the Mighty Three NICU book drive has provided more than 2,000 books to the hospital on Spring Street.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Ryan and Abby for their dedication to encouraging families during times of need, and I wish the two of them much joy as they raise their three healthy children.

CELEBRATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
TY COBB MUSEUM

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join northeast Georgia in celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Ty Cobb Museum.

The museum opened its doors on July 17, 1998, to highlight the legacy of Ty Cobb, a Banks County native and Baseball Hall of Fame member.

Cobb was a Major League Baseball outfielder who set 90 MLB records during his career, some of which stand today. He played for the Detroit Tigers for 22 years, and, later, for the Philadelphia Athletics for two seasons.

Cobb's remarkable achievements include 4,065 runs scored and batted in, 897 total stolen bases, and a batting average of .366 at the close of his career. Additionally, Cobb was the first player ever inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

In the community of Royston, The Georgia Peach is remembered for his philanthropic kindness. He was responsible for the Cobb Memorial Hospital and the Cobb Educational Fund, which have left a lasting legacy of love for his hometown.

Mr. Speaker, the Ty Cobb Museum captures significant moments throughout Cobb's life, from his roots in Royston to this success as part of American's pastime. I congratulate the staff of the museum for two decades of service to their Georgia community and wish them well in their endeavors.

CONGRATULATING CAROLINE LEWALLEN

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Caroline Lewallen of Jaemor Farms in Alto.

As a member of the Hall County Farm Bureau and Georgia Farm Bureau's Young Farmers and Ranchers program, Caroline's commitment to our State's agricultural industry earned her the program's Excellence in Agriculture award.

Caroline holds degrees in agricultural education and leadership from the University of Georgia and Texas A&M University, respectively. She began her career as a student teacher and later became an agricultural fellow in the office of one of my former colleagues, Congressman Jack Kingston.

Today, Caroline serves as the agritourism and marketing coordinator for Jaemor Farms. At Jaemor Farms, Caroline manages all events, like the festival honoring my favorite peach, the annual Georgia Belle Peach Festival. She also runs Jaemor Farms' marketing and social media presence, regularly attracting attention from across the State and the country.

Mr. Speaker, Caroline has played an important role in promoting the work of the northeast Georgia farmers by communicating the importance of locally grown produce for communities, and I want to congratulate her on this award and wish her well throughout her career.

HONORING KIT DUNLAP

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Kit Dunlap, president and CEO of the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce, who recently received the Georgia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives' Legacy Award.

The Georgia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives' Legacy

Award is the association's highest honor, recognizing executives who have dedicated many years to successfully improving their local chambers of commerce.

Kit has served as the Greater Hall Chamber's top official for more than 20 years. Her ambition and compassion for others has allowed her to excel as a leader. Throughout her involvement in the local chamber of commerce, she has transformed the Greater Hall Chamber by bringing together a well-connected economic development team. This team has helped increase capital investment, job availability, and job retention in the Hall County area.

Additionally, Kit has managed multi-million dollar initiatives, including the HALLmark campaign and Vision 2030, which helped fund community-based education and economic development programs.

I congratulate my friend Kit Dunlap on this award and thank her for her service to the Hall County business community.

Mr. Speaker, as Kit's representative, I must end this speech by answering the question she asks at the end of each chamber meeting: What is the water level of Lake Lanier? Well, today, it is 1,071.89.

TRIBUTE TO A LOCAL HERO, ROBERT VON DRASEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Robert "Bob" Von Drasek, as he is better known. Bob was the most dedicated, committed, and loyal Saul-Alinsky-trained organizer who I have ever known.

Bob came to the south Austin community during a time of great turbulence.

□ 1030

The community was in the throes of a great transition from being 80 percent White to becoming 80 percent Black within a 10-year period of time. Blockbusting, panic peddling, redlining, disinvestment, and all manner of malfeasance were taking place. Police brutality and other forms of law enforcement misconduct were rampant.

I met Bob during this period. It was also during this time that the Organization for a Better Austin, under the leadership of Gail Cincotta, was organized; the South Austin Coalition Community Council, SACCC, was formed with Bob as a lead organizer; and I decided to run for the city council.

Over the years, I have followed Bob's work without exception. South Austin is practically an all African American community, except for a few merchants who never left the area, a few White citizens, school teachers, and policemen. Of course, Bob is White or Caucasian, and yet he won the hearts of the

community and the trust of the people. He has developed intimate relationships with many of the residents and, to many, he is like a member of their family.

Through Bob's leadership, SACCC became known as the top grassroots community organization in the Chicagoland area. Bob was always a great strategist, but the members, like Mr. Ed Bailey, Mrs. Irene Norwood, Mrs. Lillian Drummond, and Mr. George Lawson, were the voices.

Many people don't know it, but it was SACCC who led community reinvestment. It was SACCC who organized senior citizens. It was SACCC who led the fight for LIHEAP. It was SACCC who kept the Austin Bank on its toes. It was SACCC who united block clubs. It was SACCC who got people to join local school councils. And it was SACCC who got churches to open their doors for community meetings.

I have been in buildings with Bob where there was no heat. I have been in homes where there was no food. I have been on streets where there were no lights. I have been with Bob in allies where there was no hope. I have been with Bob and families after their relatives were shot.

Bob has worked to bring help to the helpless and hope to the hopeless. Bob VonDrasek, you are a good man, and I thank you and your family, your wife and children, for what you have meant to our community and to our world.

True soldiers are always reluctant to come off the battlefield, but there comes a time when we must put away our swords and shields to practice war no more. When that time comes, Bob, just know that you have made a difference. When you came to south Austin, newspapers were writing that it would be the next big slum. They did not know you and they did not know the people of south Austin. South Austin is not a slum. It is a vibrant, forward-thinking, and forward-moving community.

Bob, you have done the Master's work. You have fed the hungry, clothed the naked, brought hope to the hopeless, and help to the helpless. You have lifted spirits and you have taught people how to love, how to live, and how to work together.

I close, Bob, by leaving these words with, and for, you.

If when you give the best of your service, telling the world that the Savior is come, be not dismayed when men don't believe you, He understands, and will say, "Well done."

Oh, when I come to the end of my journey, weary of life and the battle is won, carrying the staff and the cross of redemption, He'll understand, and say, "Well done."

If when this life of labor is ended, and the reward of the race you have run, oh, the sweet rest prepared for faithful, will be His blest and final, "Well done."

But if you try and fail in your trying, hands sore and scarred from the work you've begun, take up your cross, run quickly to meet Him, He'll understand, He'll say, "Well done."

SERBIA AND AMERICA—100 YEARS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, 100 years ago, in 1918, President Woodrow Wilson declared July 28 as a National Day of Prayer for the Serbian people.

This was during World War I, the war to end all wars. American doughboys and leathernecks had arrived on the western front, holding the line against Germany's last offensive before it collapsed.

Meanwhile, the Serbian people were suffering under occupation by the central powers, who had launched a brutal invasion of Serbia.

Mr. Speaker, during World War I, one in four Serbian people were killed during that war. But the Serbian army had survived the invasion and was fighting alongside our allies to liberate their home. They were reinforced by many Serbian-Americans, who had returned to Europe to help their brothers.

President Wilson wanted America to honor the sacrifices of the Serbian people. In a speech marking the invasion of Serbia by the central powers, he said of the Serbians:

Nobly did they respond. So valiantly and courageous did they oppose the forces of a country ten times greater in population and resources. . . . While their territory has been devastated and their homes despoiled, the spirit of the Serbian people has not been broken.

As a Texan, I admire such defiance against overwhelming odds.

On that special day, President Wilson ordered a rare recognition to a foreign ally, by having the Serbian flag raised over the White House. That recognition had only occurred one other time in American history.

The spirit of brotherhood between the Americans and the Serbians, fighting shoulder to shoulder against tyranny, did not end there.

One of the most meaningful stories for Americans is the Halyard Mission during the dark days of the Second World War. Despite being under Nazi occupation, the Serbian people demonstrated their remarkable bravery once again, saving the lives of hundreds of Americans in the largest rescue operation of American airmen in history.

In 1944, American bombers were flying frequent missions to strike Germany's vital oil supplies in Romania as a part of the allied advance into Europe. The 15th Air Force led this effort by launching 20,000 sorties into Eastern Europe, with many of the missions flying over Nazi-occupied Yugoslavia. As many as 1,500 pilots and airmen were shot down during these air raids.

Serbian, who had been resisting Nazi forces since 1941, risked their own lives to rescue American aircrews in Yugoslavia and hide them from patrolling Nazis. These brave and noble Serbians cared for and protected Americans and allied pilots.

In August of 1944, the allied forces, including the 15th Air Force and the

Office of Strategic Services, devised a daring operation to evacuate hundreds of allied pilots being sheltered by the Serbian resistance in Nazi-occupied Yugoslavia. American aircraft flew into enemy territory and evacuated 500 airmen from the airfield built and protected by local Serbians near the village of Pranjani.

For over 60 years, this operation was kept secret from the American people. But now we can remember the courage of our Serbian friends and their stand against the Nazis.

Here, Mr. Speaker, is a photograph taken by the Serbian resistance, taking Americans who had been shot down in Serbia and taking them to the airfield, where they would be returned back to the American lines.

George Dudich, the father of my chief of staff, Elaine Dudich Stolze, when I was a judge in Texas, rescued many Americans who had been shot down in occupied Yugoslavia.

All these years later, we remain committed to the cause of freedom for both nations. We should work together to preserve each other's security.

The United States is now working with Serbia to improve its democracy, an independent judiciary, and fight corruption. A democratic Serbia with a strong rule of law is in America's interests and Serbia's.

We are united in keeping the hungry Russian bear from interfering in domestic affairs in Serbia. Russian disinformation efforts are designed to keep Serbia in its sphere of influence and poison our relationship. Nevertheless, Serbia's integration to the west has continued to move forward.

In 2006, Serbia joined NATO's Partnership for Peace program and, in 2015, signed an Individual Partnership Action Plan with the alliance to strengthen cooperation. And recently, the European Union has announced that Serbia would join the EU as early as 2025.

The prime minister and foreign minister of Serbia and numerous Serbs are in the Capitol today to promote U.S. Serbian relations.

So on this 100th anniversary of President Wilson's speech about the courageous Serbs of World War I, we reaffirm our joint partnership and friendship and a quest for liberty.

And that is just the way it is.

HONORING THE VICTIMS OF THE OCTOBER 1 SHOOTING IN LAS VEGAS

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

Mr. KIHUEN. Mr. Speaker, it has been 297 days since the worst mass shooting in U.S. history.

On October 1, 2017, 58 people were senselessly murdered at the Harvest Music Festival in Las Vegas, in my hometown, and more than 500 people were injured.

I still remember that day like it was yesterday. I remember going to Sunrise