

Storm surge is the abnormal rise in water caused by hurricanes and the deadliest part of the storm. For large storms, mathematical models can predict a storm surge up to 48 hours before landfall. However, a 48-hour window is not sufficient for emergency management to make decisions on an evacuation order needed to save lives.

I recently met a young woman named Cindi-Ann Findley who has been working on solutions to this problem as she completes her undergraduate studies. With a National Science Foundation grant, Cindi-Ann is spending the summer exploring the sensitivities that lead to errors in forecasts by simulating previous storms using a detailed operational model. She hopes to find the characteristics that cause the largest storm surge errors.

Her work illustrates just one way that mathematics can be used to approach real-world problems and save lives.

JOSH REDDICK AND MIRACLE FIELD

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Houston Astro's right fielder and a constituent of the First Congressional District of Georgia, Mr. Josh Reddick, for his contribution to his hometown: the Josh Reddick Stadium.

Mr. Reddick is a highly successful Major League Baseball player with a World Series title and two Defensive Player of the Year Awards.

But I am proud of Mr. Reddick for continuing to make his community a top priority and helping to improve the quality of life for children with special needs.

Last year, he donated \$1 million to build the state-of-the-art Josh Reddick Baseball Stadium in Effingham County, which is accessible for all children, including those with special needs.

On Saturday, July 21, the stadium officially opened, ready for play.

Thank you, Mr. Reddick, for your gift to Effingham County and for your desire to help all children enjoy the game of baseball. Good luck during the rest of this season in the majors.

HONORING DANA BOWMAN

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, John Quincy Adams once said:

If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, you are a leader.

Special Forces Sergeant Dana Bowman is the epitome of that leader, continuously inspiring those around him. Indeed, he is a retired sergeant first

class with the U.S. Army Special Forces and a member of the elite parachute team, the Golden Knights.

On February 6, 1994, while training and descending at 300 miles per hour from the plane that dropped him, he collided midair with his teammate, Sergeant Jose Aguillon. The result of that horrendous collision was the unfortunate death of Sergeant Aguillon and the severing of both of Sergeant Bowman's legs, one above the knee and the other below.

Nine months following this deeply tragic event, he became the first double amputee to reenlist in the United States Army.

I witnessed his fortitude firsthand this past week at the 2018 opening of the national Civilian Marksmanship Program in Port Clinton, Ohio. On July 9, at Camp Perry, during the beginning of the shooting matches for this year, Sergeant Bowman began the program by parachuting from very high with a gigantic American flag that he helped unfurl as he landed on Earth. After a few short minutes, Sergeant Bowman landed perfectly right behind the podium. What a sight to behold.

I say to my fellow countrymen, truly, this man embraces the words, "Land of the free, home of the brave," and teaches us all how to rise above adversity and reach beyond whatever limitations life may deliver to any of us.

Godspeed, Sergeant Bowman. You make us proud to be Americans.

GLENVILLE STATE COLLEGE TUITION

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

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Glenville State College in Glenville, West Virginia.

With an enrollment of 1,641 students, Glenville State has emerged as a pivotal institution of higher education in central West Virginia.

Under the leadership of its president, Tracey Pellett, they stand out for their efforts to reduce the cost of tuition, thereby giving more students access to an affordable education.

When we meet with students, their number one concern is the amount of debt that they are accumulating. That is understandable.

Since 1987, nationwide tuition rates have grown more than 213 percent. But since 2016, while most colleges have hiked their tuition, Glenville has frozen their rates and even cut the cost of summer courses by 25 percent.

For the upcoming school year, the school plans on reducing tuition by a full 2 percent. This could be a template for other universities and colleges across the country to follow.

I applaud Glenville State College for its dedication to ensuring that every student can access a quality, affordable education.

WEEKEND VOTING

(Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, sadly, voter turnout in the United States ranks as one of the lowest among developed democratic countries.

We know that low voter turnout results in frustration, apathy, and a democracy that is not truly representative of the public.

Fortunately, Mr. Speaker, there is one relatively easy way that we can address this and improve voter turnout, and that is to switch to weekend voting. Weekend voting is a proven method that increases accessibility, engagement, and turnout.

The reason why we vote on Tuesday in the United States is because of a law that has existed ever since 1845. It was because we didn't want to vote on the Sabbath; it took a day to travel to the county seat; and people needed to get back home in time for market day on Wednesday. Clearly, society has changed a great deal in the last 173 years.

That is why I introduced the Louise Slaughter Weekend Voting Act to officially change election day to the first weekend after the first Friday in November. Weekend voting makes sense, and our representative democracy should demand it.

LOWER PREMIUM PLANS AND HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, for far too long, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have advocated for a one-size-fits-all approach to healthcare. But as we have learned of the failures of ObamaCare, Federal Government mandates do not work for the American people. They demand choice.

Part of the House Republican's Better Way agenda is to restore the doctor-patient relationship and put patients back in control of their healthcare decisions. That is what we have done today.

I congratulate my colleagues on passage of H.R. 6311. H.R. 6311, the Increasing Access to Lower Premium Plans and Expanding Health Savings Accounts Act, will provide more choice by expanding health savings accounts to help people plan and save for their healthcare needs, while also assessing lower cost healthcare plans.

Instead of paying high premiums, Americans can save their hard-earned money in tax-favored health savings accounts. It also delays ObamaCare's tax on health insurers for an additional 2 years, providing relief from the premium increase caused by the tax itself.

Simply put, our current healthcare system is failing the American people,

and I believe this reform will lower the cost of care while enhancing competition.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AAA BOND RATING

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to celebrate the District of Columbia, one of only eight big cities with a AAA bond rating. Indeed, only 22 of the States have a AAA bond rating.

This outsized performance should encourage Congress to recognize the D.C. budget autonomy law, which would improve D.C.'s credit profile even more.

Fully respecting D.C.'s budget autonomy also would mean lower taxes and less Federal funds the District needs from the Federal Government. I have already gotten the rating agencies to count as a positive to D.C.'s credit rating my annual provision in the D.C. appropriation exempting D.C. from the threat of shutdowns when the Federal Government shuts down.

Seven-hundred thousand D.C. residents pay the highest Federal taxes per capita in the United States. The rating agencies have awarded D.C. for "exemplary fiscal governance."

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to do the same by recognizing D.C.'s budget autonomy over its own 100 percent local budget.

REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE HOUSE FOR ONE MINUTE

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GALLAGHER). The Chair will not entertain more than one 1-minute request per Member per day.

COMMONSENSE GUN LEGISLATION

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

Mr. SUOZZI. Mr. Speaker, on August 14, it will be 6 months since the Parkland shootings. It has been 5 years since the Sandy Hook shootings. It has been 25 years since the Long Island Railroad massacre. And it has been 37 years since President Reagan was shot.

We need commonsense gun legislation in this country, legislation that the vast majority of Americans support, legislation to plug some of the holes in our commercial background checks.

The good news is that high school students and college students in my district are calling attention to this very important issue. I have been meeting with them throughout the year. They come to me and tell me what it is like when there is a fire alarm in their district.

When I was a kid and there was a fire alarm at school, we would be excited to go outside and see our friends and talk to people. Instead, when they hear a fire alarm, they figure out: Where can I hide? Where can I go if this turns out to be a catastrophe?

These students deserve our attention from this body, Democrats and Republicans working together to try to address this very real problem in our country. I am committed to doing it. I hope my colleagues will as well.

□ 1845

REAUTHORIZATION OF THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow will be a great day. We will introduce the reauthorization of the historic Violence Against Women Act. We are excited about this introduction because so many women had an opportunity for almost a year and a half, close to 2 years, to discuss, to invest, to make suggestions, and to bring together this collaboration endorsed by the national task force, a bipartisan group of 35 organizations, from religious organizations, to Native American organizations, to organizations that have been on the front lines of protecting women or seeking to stop the violence against women.

We have expanded the rape prevention section, for the rising need for that section as it relates to the #MeToo movement, sexual assault, and sexual harassment.

We are excited by the confidentiality provisions that indicate that Federal and State agencies that are receiving grants must maintain the confidentiality of those who have been victims.

Mr. Speaker, we invite the entire House of Representatives to join us on this historic occasion and support the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, which will be introduced in the very near future, tomorrow.

NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF GOV- ERNING BY CONTINUING RESO- LUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the body and my colleagues for joining me today in highlighting the negative impact that continuing resolutions have on our Nation's military, on our national security, and on how this Nation addresses the challenges in our military.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, I would argue that, if you were to come up with a way not to run a government, if you were to come up with a way not to run a business, you would come up with a continuing resolution.

We know how problematic those continuing resolutions are for this Nation. They damage our military readiness. They damage us being able to make long-term decisions. They put our sailors, our marines, our soldiers, and our airmen at risk.

This is not the way for this Nation to do business. Yet, year after year after year, we find ourselves without appropriations bills being done on time. We find ourselves facing government shutdowns. We find ourselves passing continuing resolutions in order to continue government operations.

This is not the way for us to conduct this Nation's business. It is not what our military needs. It is not what we must do to make sure there is certainty in the future for what this Nation must do under Article I, Section 8 of our Constitution.

I have been asked by a number of folks why we need to spend these dollars on our Nation's military, especially to you, ROB WITTMAN, because you are a fiscal hawk. Tell us why the spending is necessary.

Well, I can say this: We have been through, now, almost 8 years of the continuing resolution facade that is brought to us under the guise of sequestration. The Budget Control Act of 2011 was supposed to be the avenue to make the tough decisions on spending in this body. Yet, that didn't happen. And here we are, facing these automatic budgets cuts every year for our Nation's military.

Instead of making those tough decisions or setting the sequester aside, we find ourselves in a situation where, each year, it is another continuing resolution.

I would argue that this is absolutely avoidable. It is avoidable by this body making decisions on time to get appropriations bills passed out of the House, get all those done prior to this body going home for August recess. I want to make sure that those things get done.

I have come to the realization, too, that this body has a variety of choices. It can make the choice to properly fund our Nation's military. It can make the choice to get appropriations bills done on time. It can make the choice to avoid this.

I would argue that, in order to become a more effective and efficient government, these choices have to be made. I would argue that it is actually Members of Congress who should suffer