

receive the essential care they earned, allowing them to continue to live independently in our community.

I am thankful to the leadership of Selfridge, including General John Slocum, the 127th Wing and Selfridge Air National Guard Base commander, for working hard to bring this resource to southeast Michigan and Selfridge, and ensuring that veterans in this area get the best possible care.

EXTEND THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

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

Mr. CRIST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today urging action to extend the National Flood Insurance Program.

If Congress fails to reauthorize the NFIP by November 30, millions of homeowners will be unable to obtain or renew their flood coverage; housing markets will grind to a halt; and families will be left at risk of financial ruin should a flood occur.

Congress must put this uncertainty to rest. Policyholders need stability. Our housing markets need stability. American families also need stability.

I urge my colleagues to bring to the floor, and to pass, the reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program as soon as possible.

HONORING JAMES V. HANSEN

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

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, this week, my State lost a friend and a statesman. James V. Hansen, Utah's longest serving Member of this body, passed away on Wednesday. My condolences go out to his wife, Ann, as well as the rest of the Hansen family.

During his 22 years of service in the House, Jim became the first Utahn in history to assume the responsibilities of a full committee chairman. In 1997, Jim was chosen to be chair of the infamous Ethics Committee, where former Leader Armey said: "It is one of the most extraordinary trusts that a body could put in another person." In 2001, Jim was named chairman of the Natural Resources Committee.

He was a trailblazer, not just for Utah, but for me. I followed him into the State legislature; as Speaker of the House in Utah; as a Member of this body; also as a chairman of the Western Caucus, which Jim founded; and, finally, as chairman of the Resources Committee.

I will be forever grateful for the time he took to mentor me in each and every one of these roles. His impact on my life and many others cannot be overstated.

As chairman of the Resources Committee, Jim prioritized wise use of public lands while developing sound energy policies and passing numerous conservation bills.

As a senior member of the Armed Services Committee, he defended Hill Air Force Base, as well as the importance of U.S. military needs.

Jim accomplished much without ever succumbing to arrogance. He was a good man, a fine leader, and a cherished man. He will be missed.

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RESPECT WHITE HOUSE PRESS CORPS

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, today the court has affirmed the value of the First Amendment and provided the credentials back to CNN reporter Jim Acosta.

It is unfortunate that since taking office, the President has treated members of the press differently than did his predecessors. The President constantly disparages the fourth estate as fake news, derides the press as the enemy of the people, and routinely singles out individual members of the press.

It is fortunate that no injury has yet come, because last month the Trump zealot in Florida, inspired by his devotion to the President, took it upon himself to mail pipe bombs to perceived enemies of the President, including two former Presidents, the news desk of the Cable News Network, Secretaries of State, Attorneys General, and Congresspeople.

The President seems to reserve his most special and pointed derision for African-American women members of the media. In particular, April Ryan of the American Urban Radio Networks and CNN; Abby Phillip of The Washington Post; and Yamiche Alcindor of the Public Broadcasting System. Instead, the President derided April Ryan as a loser; called Abby Phillip stupid; and accused Yamiche Alcindor of racism when she asked him about his claim to be a nationalist.

Let us be very clear. The questions asked of the President were pointed, timely, and relevant. They were not dumb, racist, or stupid.

They were protected by the First Amendment, and I ask the President to stand for the First Amendment and stand against racism.

Since taking office, the President has treated members of the press differently than did his predecessors.

The President constantly disparages the Fourth Estate as "fake news," derides the press as the 'enemy of the people,' and routinely singles out for verbal abuse individual members of the press.

Although this conduct by the President is rude, childish, and unbecoming of the leader of a great nation, we are fortunate that it has not yet resulted in physical injury or harm to any member of the press.

I say fortunate because last month, a Trump zealot in Florida, inspired by his devotion to

the President, took it upon himself to mail pipe bombs to perceived enemies of the President, including two former Presidents and the news desk of the Cable News Network (CNN).

Mr. Speaker, the current President of the United States has disgraced his office on numerous occasions, most recently this past weekend when he refused to visit a cemetery in France where Americans gave their lives to defend freedom in World War I because he did not want to get wet in the rain.

But it is beneath the dignity of his office for the President to deride the free and independent press, which the Framers knew was indispensable for a functioning democracy and enshrined its protection in the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, a protection that every President takes and oath to preserve, protect, and defend.

The President reserves his most special and pointed derision for African American women members of the media who do their jobs and have the temerity to ask him questions regarding his actions or the policies of his administration.

So it came as no surprise that in the aftermath of the 2018 midterm elections, in which his party was routed and lost control of the House of Representatives, the President refused to answer questions put to him by three great and highly respected African American woman reporters: April Ryan of the Urban American Urban Radio Networks and CNN; Abby Phillip of the Washington Post; and Yamiche Alcindor of the Public Broadcasting System (PBS).

Instead, the President derided April Ryan as a "loser," called Abby Phillip "stupid," and accused Yamiche Alcindor of racism when she asked him about his claim to be a "nationalist."

Let us be very clear: the questions asked of the President were pointed, timely, and relevant; they were not dumb, racist or stupid.

They may have made the President uncomfortable but it is not the role of the media to make public officials feel comfortable, especially one who lashes out because he clearly feels the legal, ethical and political walls closing in on him.

The President's misconduct conduct is consistent with his pattern and practice of routinely disparaging African American criticism—especially from females.

The American people see the President's unmistakable pattern of disrespectful and abusive treatment of African American women members of the White House Press Corps; they do not like it, they see through it, and they know that these flailing attacks say more about this President than it does about the three very able, highly respected, and fearless African American women journalists.

I call upon the President to cease and desist his disrespectful treatment of all journalists in general, and of African American women journalists in particular.

HONORING THE LIFE OF OFFICER JARED WILLIAM FRANKS

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

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, it has been said, "The bravest are surely those who have the clearest vision of

what is before them, glory and danger alike, and yet notwithstanding, go out to meet it.”

These words embodied the life of Officer Jared William Franks of the Greensboro Police Department. Officer Franks was killed in the line of duty after bravely engaging in the pursuit of a suspect.

Only 24 years old, Officer Franks dedicated his life to public service and creating a safer community for us all. He is the first Greensboro officer to die in the line of duty in 17 years, reminding us of the bravery and strength members of law enforcement show our communities every single day.

We must never forget and always be thankful for their courage and dedication. Please keep his family; his dad, Officer Captain Franks; and fellow officers in your prayers as we remember Officer Franks' life and legacy.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF ALAINA HOUSLEY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember Alaina Housley, a wonderful young woman from my district who was murdered in the mass shooting in Thousand Oaks.

Alaina was a bright, dedicated, and inspiring student who was so excited to have voted for the first time this year. She was in her freshman year at Pepperdine and had so much of her life ahead of her. She was deeply loved by family and friends, and her death is a huge loss for our entire community.

Over the last week, vigils and marches have been held in her honor in her hometown of Napa. She will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I have committed to her parents that I will do everything I can to address violence in our communities. We will honor her senseless death with action.

May she rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING ORAN YEARGAN

(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 Oran Yeargan, a student at Glynn County Middle School in Brunswick, Georgia.

A student with a disability, Oran has been the water boy for the Hurricane's football team for the past 3 years. This October, the coach called him off the bench and Oran ran the ball for the last touchdown of the game against Needwood Middle School.

He stood by the team with utmost dedication all year, and this touchdown was not only really deserved, but an important lesson to us all about commitment and overcoming life's obstacles.

Oran, we are proud of you. Congratulations.

HONORING DISTRICT ATTORNEY DEAN FLIPPO

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

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and thank Monterey County District Attorney Dean Flippo. At the end of this year, Dean will retire after 40 years of service to our home on the central coast of California. DA Flippo is the longest-serving DA in Monterey County history, and the longest current serving DA in California.

During his tenure, he presided over pivotal cases. He fought the rise and he led the fall of our gang problem in our community. He enforced environmental policy. He established the consumer fraud unit. He created an early intervention anti-truancy program to keep kids in school and off the streets by getting their families involved. And he was a master at keeping a balanced budget.

I will always be grateful to Dean for giving me a chance and a job as a prosecutor when I moved back home to Monterey County. During that time, I was able to learn from him as I served under him. Now I count myself lucky to have continued to work with him over these last 2 years on criminal justice issues.

I hope Dean enjoys his retirement watching PG High School football games, except when they are playing Carmel High, of course.

As we know, Dean leaves big shoes to fill, but he has left a long legacy of public service and safety in our community.

We honor him. We congratulate him. And I thank Dean Flippo for his service.

THANKING VETERANS

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

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express a heartfelt thank you to all the veterans across Kansas and throughout the United States.

This week we celebrate Veterans Day and we recognize and honor the service and sacrifice each and every veteran has made to ensure the preservation of the freedom and liberty we take for granted every day.

One of my greatest responsibilities in Congress has been to support the men and women of our military and fulfill the promise that we make to them in exchange for their service.

Over the last 2 years, Congress has worked with this administration to provide a record amount of funding for health programs at the VA, and we have increased accountability measures to make sure no one falls through the cracks. We have paid special attention to improving the mental health

services and opioid abuse prevention among our veterans.

We owe these veterans a debt of gratitude that we can never fully repay, but the best way to try to do that is to ensure they are cared for as promised when they come home.

Mr. Speaker, may we continue to honor our veterans this week and always.

HONORING OUR VETERANS

(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, this past weekend our country reflected on the bravery and sacrifice of veterans who answered the call to defend our Nation.

New York's 22nd District is home to more than 55,000 veterans, and it is a true honor to serve each and every one of them in Congress. Whether part of the Marine Corps, Navy, Army, Air Force, or Coast Guard, our men and women in uniform have served and sacrificed greatly to secure the freedoms we enjoy at home.

When our veterans come home from serving our Nation, it is our responsibility to ensure they receive quality healthcare, provide them with the tools to start their own business, and find educational opportunities for them following their great service.

They stood for us, and now we must stand for them. To all of our veterans: Thank you for everything you have sacrificed for our freedom. You truly represent the best in America.

Mr. Speaker, I also have a special thank you to every veteran who has continued to serve in this great body on both sides of the aisle, and with a special thank you to our presiding Speaker today, who has also served in our military honorably.

A final thank you to all of my friends in the Marine Corps for a happy 243rd birthday, and especially to my dear son, Captain Trey Cleary, who is also a U.S. Naval Academy graduate.

Thank you so much to all of you who serve. We are indebted to you and grateful to you for your service to keep our freedoms and to continue making this a great Nation.

OPIOID EPIDEMIC

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to highlight a couple of things. First of all, I will comment on a really important issue in my region. Upstate New York communities have suffered tremendously from the opioid crisis ravaging our Nation.

In 2016, opioid overdoses rose by 121 percent in New York State and opioid deaths doubled in Broome County,