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REMEMBERING CRAIG HARNEY

(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 remember the life of Mr. Craig Harney, who passed away on November 30 at the age of 65 after battling cancer.

Mr. Harney was a stalwart of Savannah journalism—unbelievably dedicated to his craft at WTOC—and largely responsible for making WTOC the Southeast news leader.

He began at the news station 40 years ago, while a student in college, with a part-time job answering the phone. By the end of his career, he had worked his way up to become WTOC's creative director and, at different points, held nearly every position at the station.

His colleagues remember that he knew how to get to the heart of the story and that he was interested in doing everything he could to help shine a light on what made our community so special. It was this effort and talent that he put into his stories, which made our area a better place to live and exemplified Mr. Harney as a true Savannahian.

His vibrant personality, always meandering throughout our communities in search of stories to highlight, is simply irreplaceable.

My thoughts and prayers will be with his family, friends, and all of his colleagues at WTOC during this most difficult time.

CONGRATULATING SUNNY HILLS HIGH SCHOOL AND ESPERANZA HIGH SCHOOL

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

Mr. CISNEROS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate two high schools in my district on their CIF Southern Section football championships.

I offer my sincere congratulations to Sunny Hills High School's Lancers from Fullerton for their win in the CIF Southern Section Division 8 final.

I also want to congratulate the Esperanza High School Aztecs for their win in the CIF Southern Section Division 13 final.

We are all especially proud of both schools for their amazing run through the playoffs. This is both Sunny Hills' and Esperanza's first CIF championships since 1972. Their championships speak to the leadership of their head coaches, Pete Karavedas and Wes Choate, and their respective coaching staffs.

But, more importantly, these championships were possible due to the dedication, commitment, and teamwork of the players. I have no doubt that this is just the beginning of continued success for both programs.

Again, on behalf of the 39th Congressional District, I want to congratulate both Sunny Hills and Esperanza High Schools for two outstanding championship seasons.

HONORING OFFICER KEN FOLEY

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

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a local police officer, husband, father, and respected community member: Ken Foley.

In 1990, Officer Foley joined the Lakeland Police Department following 8 years with the United States Marine Corps. Last week, on December 4, after 29 years of distinguished service, his career and his life here on this Earth came to an end as he died unexpectedly while on duty.

Police Chief Ruben Garcia shared that Foley was an "everyday first responder and definitely one of our local heroes."

Officer Foley was active in the community, and he knew it well. Lakeland residents flooded social media with anecdotes about Officer Foley's infectious smile, his compassion, and his unique ability to connect with people.

Officers like Ken Foley make me proud of my community and grateful for the daily sacrifices of our first responders.

So, to Officer Foley's family, his friends, and the entire Lakeland Police Department: Our prayers are with you all. May God bless, comfort, and keep you during this difficult time.

MULLICA TOWNSHIP ACES PROGRAM

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

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, today I want to acknowledge the Mullica Township ACES program, a school district initiative in south Jersey. It is an initiative started by Barbara Rheault that provides academic aid and enrichment to students after school hours.

The ACES program started in Mullica Township, south Jersey, 12 years ago thanks to grant funds for a 21st Century Community Learning Center from the New Jersey Department of Education.

This after-school program is vital to south Jersey because it provides after-school care to students that balances academic opportunities and recreational activities. At ACES, students have time to complete their homework and participate in sports or other games and activities, which cultivates both their academic and social development.

ACES also offers additional tutoring, counseling, and health-safety education so every student has access to whatever they need to achieve success.

I thank the ACES program, Barbara Rheault, and the Mullica Township School District for providing this educational experience for our youth. I am proud of them.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. C.O. SIMPKINS, SR.

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a true Louisiana icon, Dr. C.O. Simpkins, Sr., a doctor, veteran, distinguished public servant, and civil rights leader, who passed away last week.

Doctor Simpkins, a proud native of Mansfield, Louisiana, leaves behind a wonderful legacy of service to his fellow Louisianians: He defended our Nation as a captain in the United States Air Force; he treated our families as a beloved dentist; and he served honorably as a member of the Louisiana House of Representatives.

Dr. Simpkins' greatest impact was unquestionably in the fight for civil rights. He was a friend and contemporary of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King; he was a founder of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; and he was a tireless advocate for freedom, justice, and equality.

Today I am honored to join my colleagues from the Louisiana delegation to introduce legislation to designate a U.S. Post Office in Dr. Simpkins' name in his hometown of Mansfield. It is a small but sincere gesture of appreciation for a good man whose legacy lives on in our Nation, our State, and our communities.

Godspeed, Dr. Simpkins.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LA SALLE HIGH SCHOOL

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to congratulate my alma mater, La Salle High School, for winning their fourth Ohio Division II football championship in the last 6 years. They defeated a tough Masillon Washington High School team 34-17.

I was particularly pleased to see La Salle bring home another championship since I played defensive line for the Lancers back in the day, and my brother, Dave, 10 years later, played defensive back.

Congratulations to Coach Pat McLaughlin, his coaching staff, the players, parents, students, and fans. You made the school and all of Cincinnati proud. Lancers roll deep.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to congratulate the Cincinnati Elder Panthers, who had a great season as well but came up just short of winning the Ohio Division I championship.

My nephews, Joey and Mikey Del Prince, played for Elder a few years back.

Don't get too down, guys. You will get them next year. Go Panthers.

THE BLESSINGS OF FREE ENTERPRISE AND CAPITALISM

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DELGADO). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, tonight we find ourselves at a crossroads in the history of our great Nation, a nation founded upon the simple, self-evident truth that we are endowed by our Creator "with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness—that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

With those words, the Declaration of Independence gave birth to a new nation rooted in the principles of limited government, individual freedom, and the rule of law through self-government, and it set into motion the greatest experiments in human freedom and prosperity the world has ever known. That is largely because our Constitution protected those principles through separation of powers, federalism, and the Bill of Rights.

Just as the Constitution protected political freedom, it also protected our economic freedom and enabled the American people to flourish through entrepreneurship, business, and private enterprise operating in a free market. In short, Mr. Speaker, American capitalism, as enabled by the United States Constitution, has delivered the most free, prosperous, and successful country in the history of the world.

But today, those principles of free enterprise and capitalism are under attack, and that experiment in liberty is threatened by leftwing politicians who are openly embracing socialism, defenders of central planning in the media and in the academy, and even some business leaders who are calling for a redefinition of the purpose of a corporation.

So, today, my colleagues and I, members of the Republican Study Committee, join the debate. We join the debate between staying on the road of capitalism, prosperity, and freedom versus going down a much different path, what Austrian-British economist and philosopher Friedrich August von Hayek called "The Road to Serfdom," in which he spelled out a vivid warning to the socialist intelligentsia in England that an experiment with socialist policies would result in the same disastrous outcomes that had destroyed liberty in Germany and Russia.

The experience of history is clear: Whenever and wherever socialism has been tried and put into place, it has resulted in a loss of individual freedom, economic stagnation, diminished productivity, deprivation and shortages, misery, and death.

Central planning in Germany, Italy, and Japan before World War II and in the Soviet Union and China in the postwar, Cold War era, invariably resulted in soul-destroying and liberty-crushing totalitarianism.

To paraphrase Hayek, fascism, communism, and so-called democratic socialism are merely variants of the same totalitarianism which central control of all economic activity tends to produce.

Socialist Parties may not deliberately aim for a totalitarian regime, but the experience of history teaches us that the unforeseen but inevitable consequences of socialist planning create a state of affairs in which, if the policy is to be pursued, totalitarian forces will get the upper hand.

Economic planning necessarily requires coercion and uses of compulsion upon individuals in ways that deprive them of freedom of choice. As author Charles C. W. Cooke recently wrote, "Socialism Is Not Democratic."

Ascendant elements within the American left are engaged in a sustained attempt to reintroduce and rehabilitate the word "socialism," in part by prepending to it a word that has a much better reputation and an infinitely better historical record: "democratic."

Voters should not be fooled by the rebranding, for there is no sense in which socialism can be made compatible with democracy. At worst, socialism eats democracy and is swiftly transmuted into tyranny and deprivation. But, at best, socialism stamps out individual agency, places civil society into a straight jacket of uniform size, and turns representative government into a chimera.

The U.S. Constitution is crystal clear on the appropriate role of government. And government that it permits is incompatible with and insufficient to sustain socialism.

Just as the individual right to free speech is widely comprehended as part of what we mean by democracy rather than as an unacceptable abridgement of majority rule, so the individual rights protected in property and by markets are necessary to the maintenance of a democratic order in this deeper sense of the word.

In the West, choosing to trade with a person in another country is, itself, a democratic act.

Electing to start a company in your garage with no need for another's imprimatur is, itself, a democratic act.

Banding together to establish a cooperative is, in itself, a democratic act.

Selecting the vendor from which you source your goods and services and choosing which to buy from, it is, itself, a democratic act.

Keeping the lion's share of the fruits of your labor is, itself, a democratic act.

So, when the government steps in with their bayonets and say no, they are, in effect, keeping your choices off the ballot.

Democratic socialism, to me, is about democratic control of every single facet of our life. That is one way of putting it; certainly, another is tyranny.

□ 1815

So during the last 3 years through tax cuts, deregulation, unleashing America's energy and easing restrictions on credit markets by rolling back Dodd-Frank's one-size-fits-all rules, we have witnessed a rebirth of freedom and free enterprise. We have witnessed a reinvigoration of America's first principles and a very fortunate move away from socialism. The result has been an American worker boom, but if we retreat from these hard-fought gains, we will return to the road to serfdom.

The socialist policies of today with populous names like: Medicare For All, the Green New Deal, the Lower Drug Costs Now Act, the Wall Street Tax Act, the Stop Wall Street Looting Act, these pieces of legislation are all a danger to a free society. They are nothing more than central planning schemes that accumulate power in the government at the expense of the people, and in ways that rely on administrative coercion, force and discrimination, and through measures which are entirely incompatible with a free society.

If you think that a transition to socialist policies won't pose a danger to our economy, I would urge you to review the so-called Accountable Capitalism Act, offered by Senator and candidate-for-President, ELIZABETH WARREN.

The bill is a wish list of socialist ideas aimed to shackle government enterprise with government control. The bill would require any company over \$1 billion in revenue to be chartered by the Federal Government and allow the Federal Government to relinquish that charter at any time through opaque rules. The bill gives control to the government to determine who serves on a company's board and whose interests that board must satisfy.

Senator WARREN went so far as to send letters to CEOs of some of America's largest and most successful businesses stating that she, "expects them to support her bill." With this burden of government control over its operations, where is the incentive for business to expand? Where is the incentive for Americans to innovate? Where is the incentive for Americans to risk their capital in entrepreneurship? Where is the incentive to increase revenue or create new jobs?

Presidential candidate, BERNIE SANDERS, said that we should wage a moral and political war against corporate leaders.

The gentlewoman from New York, our colleague, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, called capitalism, "irredeemable."

These arrogant attitudes of our Nation's elected representatives threaten the very principles of limited government and individual freedom on which