

KEEP LIBERIAN COMMUNITY HERE IN AMERICA

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

Mr. PHILLIPS. Madam Speaker, our Nation is the land of promise and the land of opportunity. We open our doors to the tired, to the poor, and to the huddled masses. And, for decades, we have opened our doors to Liberian refugees fleeing vicious civil wars and the Ebola virus.

The Liberian community in Minnesota—my home State—is the hard-working bedrock of our healthcare industry. They are parents, children, brothers, sisters, workers, businessowners, and taxpayers.

In 1999, they were given a special immigration status in the United States: deferred enforced departure, or DED. They work legally, they pay taxes, but currently have no pathway to citizenship.

Madam Speaker, if you are here legally, play by the rules, and contribute to your community, you should have nothing to fear. But if we don't act by March 31, the Liberian community's DED status will expire. It will subject our friends and our neighbors to deportation, and our community is terrified.

Since its inception, DED has been a bipartisan issue. Both Republican and Democratic Presidents have acted to extend it for two decades. Now it is our turn.

This week, we have the chance to send a legislative fix to the President's desk. I urge all of us, on both sides of the aisle, to do the right thing, the humane thing, and keep our Liberian community here in their homes in the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING DEBORAH R. MCBRIDE

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

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50-year career of Deborah R. McBride, better known as Debby.

Debby was born to Clarence and Miriam McBride in Washington, D.C. After graduating high school, she moved to Birmingham, Alabama, to attend Birmingham-Southern.

During her senior year in college, she came to Capitol Hill and lined up a job with former Democratic Congressman Bill Nichols and worked as a case-worker until his death in 1988.

She stayed on with the office of Alabama's Third Congressional District until Dr. Glen Browder, also a Democrat, was elected in a special election in April of 1989. She continued her work as a caseworker, as well as scheduling and office manager.

In 1996, Bob Riley was elected. Although a Democrat, Debby continued

to work for him through his three terms doing casework, serving as office manager and taking on coordinating tours and flags.

I was elected in 2002 and, like before, Debby stayed on to work for me, continuing in her roles and her service to east Alabama. Debby has been with me since day one. If you polled the Third Congressional District, she would certainly be more popular than me.

She has institutional knowledge that cannot be replaced, and I know I will miss her very much. Debby has a heart of gold and has touched many lives. The Third District of Alabama will not be the same without her.

Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking Debby for her unwavering service to the people of Alabama and our country.

□ 1215

EMERGENCY FUNDING AND MILITARY PROJECTS

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

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK. Madam Speaker, the Department of Defense published a report revealing the dire impacts of the President's unlawful emergency declaration. It threatens to steal nearly \$150 million of urgently needed Arizona military construction funds critical to the security of our Nation and the well-being of our men and women in uniform and military families.

Both military bases within my district, Fort Huachuca and Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, are on the list that could be directly affected by these cuts, and I am here today to say, no way.

I represent a border district in southern Arizona, and we don't want the expensive, ineffective wall. We want our military bases funded.

Madam Speaker, 59 percent of Americans reject this emergency declaration. I will continue to take action to block this brutal decision and fight to protect Arizonans from the drastic consequences of this dangerous, unlawful declaration.

CONGRATULATING NEW ULM MEDICAL CENTER

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

Mr. HAGEDORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the New Ulm Medical Center for being named the number one critical access hospital in the United States for 2019. This medical center, part of Allina Health, serves more than 13,000 New Ulm residents and countless more folks in southern Minnesota.

The New Ulm Medical Center has found positive ways to improve afford-

ability and increase successful patient outcomes. Even when faced with serious health challenges, patients can thrive when they have access to affordable and conveniently located healthcare.

All Americans deserve access to quality, timely medical care. I am very pleased that residents in New Ulm, Brown County, and surrounding areas in southern Minnesota have such a fine institution of medicine to provide them.

Congratulations to New Ulm Medical Center, and thank you for serving our community.

HONORING DR. JOAQUIN GONZALEZ CIGARROA

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

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Dr. Joaquin Gonzalez Cigarroa.

Dr. Cigarroa was born in San Antonio but soon moved with his family to Laredo, Texas. From an early age, he knew that medicine was going to be his calling and devoted himself to academics.

He graduated as valedictorian from his class at Martin High School, then went off to attend the University of Texas and then Harvard Medical School, where he received his medical degree. He was the first Harvard University medical student from the Texas-Mexico border.

After graduating, Dr. Cigarroa served his country as a first lieutenant with the U.S. Army Medical Corps before returning to Laredo and practicing medicine.

Dr. Cigarroa made a dramatic impact on education, not only in Laredo but across the State of Texas, and also in healthcare.

He will be fondly remembered for his commitment to education, healthcare, and a career that changed the way of life for so many people.

Dr. Cigarroa is survived by his wife, Barbara Judith Raymond Flores; their children: Patricia, Barbara, Francisco, Ricardo, Jorge, Carlos, Gabriella, Joaquin, Maria-Elena, and Marisa—10 children; and, again, by so many grandchildren and so many great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, thank you for this opportunity to honor the life of Dr. Joaquin Cigarroa.

GIRL SCOUTS CELEBRATE 107TH ANNIVERSARY

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Girl Scouts' 107th birthday, which was celebrated earlier this month. This anniversary is important to women everywhere, but particularly in the First

District of Georgia where the Girl Scouts were founded.

In 1912, Juliette Gordon Low started meeting with 18 girls who played basketball, hiked, camped, studied foreign languages, and worked to help people in need. With Juliette Gordon Low and these 18 women in Savannah, the seeds were sown for a movement, which now includes 2.6 million Girl Scouts in 92 countries and 50 million alums.

With their motto of being go-getters, innovators, risk-takers, and leaders, the international organization has made an enormous impact in the lives of young women in their 107-year history. A testament to their work includes alums aboard the International Space Station, Members of Congress, artists, athletes, and so much more.

Thank you to the Girl Scouts for making our world a better place to live and for encouraging young women to always push the envelope. Congratulations on a successful first 107 years, and I wish the Girl Scouts the best in years to come.

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER BENITO CHAVEZ AND DEPUTY SHERIFF RYAN THOMPSON

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

Ms. SCHRIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two law enforcement officers in my district.

Police Officer Benito Chavez was injured in the line of duty protecting our community in a senseless act of violence after a car chase last week. He has only been with the Kittitas Police Department for 8 months, so he has many years of service ahead of him. I am happy to know that he is home with his family and his wife, and I thank him for his service, wish him a speedy recovery, and hope that he will be back on the job soon.

On a much sadder note, I, Kittitas County, and the whole Eighth District mourn the loss of a hero, Deputy Sheriff Ryan Thompson who lost his life in the line of duty on March 19. It is heartbreaking that Deputy Sheriff Thompson leaves behind his wife and three children. I send my deepest condolences to his family, his friends, and his colleagues who have been hit hard by this tragedy. We will be forever grateful for his service to our community and to our State.

We all owe such a debt of gratitude to Officer Chavez, Deputy Sheriff Thompson, and all law enforcement professionals who put themselves at risk every day to keep our community safe.

MEDAL OF HONOR DAY

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, this week we celebrate Medal of Honor

Day, dedicated to the recipients of America's highest military honor.

Today, there are just 72 living Medal of Honor recipients. The 10th District is home to one of these, Allen J. Lynch of Gurnee, who was awarded the Medal of Honor in 1970 for his actions in Vietnam.

While serving as a radio telephone operator near the village of My An, Sergeant Lynch risked his life to move three wounded comrades to safety and single-handedly defended their isolated position for 2 hours against an advancing and numerically superior enemy force until they could be safely evacuated.

Sergeant Lynch's service did not end in Vietnam. He has spent his entire life serving his fellow veterans with the Federal Veterans Administration as well as the Illinois State Government Veterans Department.

In an interview, he said: "There are many servicemembers, first responders, and citizens who serve this country above and beyond who are never recognized for what they do. We hold the Medal of Honor for all those men and women who have never been recognized for the great things they did."

My friend, Allen Lynch, is a true American hero and a role model for us all. On Medal of Honor Day, we reflect on all those who have acted above and beyond the call of duty and the hard-fought freedoms we enjoy because of their service and sacrifice.

RECOGNIZING MASON DAUGHERTY AND ELI SCOTT

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

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize two great constituents of mine, Mason Daugherty and Eli Scott from McKinney, Texas, on winning the 2019 C-SPAN Video Documentary Competition.

Their documentary, "What It Means to Be an American: Citizen Accountability in Government," highlights how the United States Constitution intended to instill power with the American people and how corruption in our system of government diverts power away from those very individuals.

Like these impressive 11th graders from Imagine International Academy of North Texas, I, too, believe power must rest with the people. Working together, we can bring real change in Washington.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in congratulating Mason Daugherty and Eli Scott on their achievement.

ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE

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

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Madam Speaker, the truth is I believe there is common ground within our Caucus and within the Congress as a whole on how to improve access to healthcare for every single American.

We can all agree that we must reduce the cost of health insurance and prescription drugs and we must protect millions of Americans with preexisting conditions. That is why I am so excited this week to work with my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health and the New Democratic Coalition to put forward proposals that will make a real difference in the lives of families in New Hampshire and all across this great country.

Earlier this month, I joined my new Democratic colleagues in pushing for efforts to strengthen the Affordable Care Act and continue the path toward affordable, accessible universal healthcare coverage. Today, I am excited that we are putting our ideas into action by introducing this pivotal healthcare bill.

Access to affordable healthcare has long been a top priority of mine. I was proud to unveil solutions over politics in the last Congress.

We cannot turn back the clock on the progress we have made. The time to improve healthcare for all is now.

SUPPORTING PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

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

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, on April 2, just a few days from now, we will observe Equal Pay Day in the United States. This commemoration represents the amount of time into this new year a woman must work to earn as much as a man earned in 2018 alone.

As long as this continues, we are effectively telling our wives, our daughters, our mothers, and every woman in our life that they are inherently worth less.

I don't believe this. I don't believe my colleagues do either, which is why I encourage everyone to support the Paycheck Fairness Act when it comes to a vote tomorrow.

This bill represents a major step toward closing the pay gap, ensuring employers pay women what they are due, and the process will grow our economy by putting more money in Americans' paychecks and helping families thrive.

I am honored to support this legislation for my daughter, for the hard-working families in our district, and for women across America who deserve a fair wage for honest work.

□ 1230

WHEN WOMEN SUCCEED, AMERICA SUCCEEDS

(Ms. WEXTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1