

today in 2019, Jews are still being threatened by murderous white supremacists.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for a moment of silence, but we must follow it with action. We must act against gun violence and come together to stop the rising tide of white supremacy that plagues our Nation today.

Please join me in a moment of silence.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL INTERNSHIP AWARENESS MONTH

(Ms. FOXX of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, April is National Internship Awareness Month, and I rise to highlight the wonderful educational opportunities internships provide.

They promote experiential learning that helps people make career choices amid a wide range of potential professional tracks. Employers increasingly prefer to hire people with relevant work experience, and internships are a great way to gain this asset.

Congress mirrors this trend and financial means should not be a limiting factor in one's participation in a congressional internship. That is why I, in past years, set aside part of my annual office budget to offer paid internships, and I am pleased that appropriations passed into law last year provide funding for all House offices to do the same.

I encourage more employers to consider offering internships, and I encourage people to explore those opportunities in Congress and all fields to help them inform their career paths.

LOWER PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICES

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

Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL. Mr. Speaker, I have spent the last 2 weeks in my district listening to constituents and healthcare providers share stories about how our broken healthcare system is hurting south Florida.

One thing is clear: high prescription drugs prices are hurting families in my community and across America, which is why this week in the Judiciary Committee we are voting on a bipartisan bill to lower prescription drug prices.

I am all for supporting research and innovation, but we cannot allow the pharmaceutical industry to delay and block more affordable, generic medicines because it may hurt their profits. Lowering drug prices for all Americans should be a bipartisan issue, and this is just one more step in making our country healthier and helping Americans keep more of their paycheck.

Let's help hardworking families get ahead.

RECOGNIZING TECHNICAL SERGEANT CAM KELSCH

(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 Technical Sergeant Cam Kelsch who is stationed at Hunter Army Airfield in the First Congressional District of Georgia. He recently received the Silver Star Medal on April 9 at the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum.

The third highest medal for gallantry in the Nation, Sergeant Kelsch received the award for extraordinary acts of bravery during a nighttime raid in Afghanistan. Throughout the raid, he exposed himself to enemy fire multiple times, once to call in air support, and another time to eliminate an enemy machine gun.

He was also struck by enemy fire while saving the life of a wounded American as he dragged him to safety while under fire.

Stories like these from our soldiers abroad are sober reminders of the dangerous situations they endure to make our world and our Nation a safer place to live.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Sergeant Kelsch for his service, his bravery, and his sacrifice, and congratulate him on receiving the Silver Star. He deserves it.

UKRAINIAN ELECTION

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great admiration that I rise to recognize Ukraine's recent historic Presidential elections. On April 21, 2019, the Ukrainian people made their democratic values known in an election international observers lauded as free and fair.

Such an achievement is a rare and true testament to the Ukrainian people's resilience and love of liberty, especially while fending off Russia's ongoing aggression which has already killed over 13,000 Ukrainian citizens.

I am grateful to President Poroshenko for his leadership over the past 5 years and his dedication to moving Ukraine forward. The United States Congress congratulates President-elect Zelenskiy and extends a hand of friendship on behalf of the American people.

The President-elect faces many challenges, including delivering on the Ukrainian people's expectations to counter corruption.

The free world must now step up our efforts to provide moral and material aid to support Ukraine's continued democratic trajectory. Onward Ukraine. Onward free Ukraine.

CONSORTIUM TO COMBAT SUBSTANCE ABUSE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this morning I was at Penn State University, a great land grant university, for the inaugural conference of the Consortium to Combat Substance Abuse. Penn State has brought together a diverse group of stakeholders to address the largest public health crisis of our lifetime: the opioid and substance abuse epidemic.

This group will draw on the expertise of researchers, educators, and practitioners from Penn State campuses across the Commonwealth to develop and implement effective programs, policies, and practices aimed at preventing and treating addiction and its spillover effects on children, families, and our communities.

Pennsylvania has been hit hard by the opioid epidemic, especially our rural communities, though no household is immune.

On Saturday, Americans had the opportunity to protect their communities and prevent the spread of addiction by safely disposing of expired, unwanted, and unused prescription drugs, thanks to the Drug Enforcement Administration's 17th Annual National Prescription Drug Take Back Day.

It is encouraging to see communities working together to slow the spread of the opioid epidemic. It is my hope that through increased awareness and action at all levels we can eradicate it once and for all.

OPPOSING TRANSFORMATION PLAN OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the decision by the Corporation for National and Community Service, or CNCS, to close all State and territorial offices and replace them with eight regional offices.

If this plan is implemented, just by way of example, the office in my home State of Rhode Island will close. If this happens, we will lose the local experts who understand the histories and cultures of the communities they serve, and with them, the years-long relationships that they have built up in our communities.

The closures will particularly harm smaller organizations that rely on CNCS, like New Urban Arts, the Rhode Island Free Clinic, Federal Hill House, and Riverzedge Arts.

That is why I have joined my colleagues in sending a letter to CEO Barbara Stewart opposing the plan, and why I am cosponsoring Representative

McCOLLUM's Keep Community Service Local Act.

At a time when Americans, particularly our young people, report feeling evermore disconnected from their government, programs like national service and civics education are crucial in helping to repair the fabric of our democracy.

Let's not let this decision stand. Let's see it turned around. Keep these offices open.

COMMENDING THE TOXIC 18 GROUP

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

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great group who has been documenting something tragic going on in our community, the Toxic 18 group on the Treasure Coast of Florida.

The administrators and the members of Toxic 18 have dedicated countless volunteer hours to taking pictures, videos, and looking at the destruction which has included dead animals, sickness, destroyed environment, and businesses being forced to close across the Treasure Coast, all as a result of the harmful algal blooms going on in our area.

Their administrators, people who I have had the chance to get to know, like Cyndi Lenz, Jennie Pawlowsky, Cristina Maldonado, Kim Streiber, and Troy Brown have done an outstanding job, and because of their work, I am very optimistic for a great 2019 and future beyond that because of the work they have already done in 2018 and before.

VIOLENCE IN AMERICAN CHURCHES

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

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express a sense of righteous indignation about the violence peaceful people of faith must now concern themselves with in places of worship all over America.

We have come to the point in this Nation where we can no longer attend church or go to the synagogue or the mosque without fearing the worst. How many lives must we lose before we decide there is not any room in America for hate?

Martin Luther King, Jr., once said: "Hate is too heavy a burden to bear." We must bring an end to wanton gun violence before it robs this Nation of its very soul.

The people in my district pray without ceasing for the victims of the Poway shooting.

As leaders of this Nation, let's commit ourselves today to bring this violence to an end here and now.

CONGRATULATING RUDY DORY

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

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Rudy Dory who is a great Oregonian and this year's recipient of the National Grocers Association's Clarence G. Adamy Great American Award.

Established in 1982, this award is presented to an individual or a company whose leadership in the food industry best exemplifies active and effective participation in government relations as a citizen and industry representative.

Rudy Dory is the executive chairman of Newport Avenue Market, which is an employee-owned, independent grocery store in Bend, Oregon, in my district, and I had the pleasure to get a full tour from Rudy of Newport Avenue Market in Bend just last August.

He has been in the grocery industry for 40 years. He has helped Newport Avenue Market through its migration from a traditional store to the award-winning, employee-owned, specialty grocery store it is today.

Rudy is a tireless advocate of the independent supermarket industry and advocates in support of a public policy agenda that benefits Main Street grocers throughout the Nation.

Local grocers like Rudy help job growth, support Oregon's producers, and help feed our communities.

So please join me in congratulating Rudy Dory on receiving this prestigious award, and working on behalf of not only Newport Avenue Market, but for all businesses and independent grocers across the country.

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RECOGNIZING THE SOUTH MEDIA FIRE COMPANY

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

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, in Pennsylvania, volunteer fire departments have long played a central role in the life of our towns and boroughs. In recent years, changing demographics and funding issues have seriously impacted the volunteer fire company tradition. However, it has also had one benefit of spurring recruitment of first responders from nontraditional quarters.

I want to take a minute to acknowledge the history made by two volunteers at the South Media Fire Company just last week. When an emergency call from a local middle school came in at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday morning, Ellen Yarborough, a schoolteacher, and Dora Giannakarios Preston, a local business woman, put their day jobs on hold to answer the call, unaware that they were making history. This was the first time in the 100-year history of the firehouse that an all-female crew had handled an emergency call.

To Ellen, Dora, the South Media Fire Company, and all of our volunteer firefighters, thank you for your service and for answering the call of duty to keep us safe.

GA-12 NATIONAL SCIENCE BOWL PARTICIPANTS

(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, over this past weekend the 2019 National Science Bowl finals took place down the road in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

I am proud to rise here this evening to congratulate Stallings Island Middle School and Lakeside High School—both located in Georgia's 12th district—for their students' stellar performance in this year's competition.

The path to the finals is no easy task. With over 1,000 high schools and nearly 650 middle schools participating in the regional tournaments nationwide, these Georgia-12 students worked hard to advance to the finals and compete at the national level. The students' brilliance solving technical problems and answering questions about all branches of science and math is truly incredible.

I would like to thank and congratulate the educators, coaches, and especially the bright young students of Stallings Island Middle School and Lakeside High School who made this tremendous run possible.

Georgia-12 is certainly proud, and we look forward to cheering them on again next year.

RECOGNIZING CECIL SMITH OF SOUTH JERSEY

(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, I am grateful for the opportunity to speak about an outstanding member of south Jersey.

Cecil Smith of Salem County has served south Jersey's community for many years as the editor of the South Jersey Times south edition, founder of The Partners of Salem County program, and most recently as executive director of the Salem County College Foundation. The Partners of Salem County program contributes to numerous local community and educational programs and has raised more than \$1 million in scholarship funds.

Mrs. Smith has also served on several boards for local organizations that serve and help our entire community. Her many achievements were recently recognized at the 18th Annual Educational Foundation Leadership Recognition and Scholarship Dinner.

Her community involvement over the years has benefited many, and for this south Jersey is honored to call Cecil Smith a very special member of our community.