

Mr. SPANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize three schools that recently finished excellent high school baseball seasons.

First, I want to congratulate Lakeland Christian, who capped off a 24-win season by winning the Florida Class 3A State championship on June 1. It was no small feat to knock off a three-time defending State champion, but under the leadership of Coach Blane Fox, they won 3 to 1. This was the first Polk County team to win a baseball State title in 24 years.

Second, it should come as no surprise to those who know Florida baseball that it was two Hillsborough County schools, Plant City and Strawberry Crest, that faced off in the Class 8A championship on May 30.

Plant City, under the leadership of Coach Michael Fryrear got off to a quick start and never looked back, winning 3 to 1 over Coach Eric Beattie's Strawberry Crest team and finishing the season with 30 wins.

I congratulate Florida Class 3A State champions, Lakeland Christian; Class 8A State champions, Plant City; and Class 8A runner-up, Strawberry Crest. Madam Speaker, all three teams should be proud of their accomplishments over this past season.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DESERVE ACTION

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

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gun Violence Awareness Month, which began mere days after another tragic shooting in Virginia Beach and weeks after the Chabad of Poway synagogue shooting just outside of my district in southern California.

This is wrong.

After the Poway shooting, I called for concrete action to help end the scourge of senseless gun violence in our country. I called on the Senate to pass H.R. 8, which would put commonsense gun safety measures in place, requiring a background check on every gun sale or transfer. I also called on the Senate to pass H.R. 1112 to close the Charleston loophole, which currently allows the sale of a firearm to proceed if a background check is not completed within 3 business days.

Months after the House passed those bipartisan bills, they continue to languish in the Senate.

The American people deserve better. The American people deserve a vote. They deserve elected officials who aren't afraid of the NRA.

The American people deserve action. That is what Gun Violence Awareness Month is about. We have an epidemic of gun violence that is unique to our country, and we must finally do something about it.

RECOGNIZING WE BUILD THE WALL

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work being done by a crowd-funded organization called We Build the Wall.

Because Congress has failed to pass legislation that will secure our border and fund the construction of physical barriers where they are needed, these folks have taken the initiative.

We Build the Wall, led by Air Force combat veteran and triple amputee Brian Kolfage, has raised over \$23 million in private donations to help secure the southern border and began construction in New Mexico over the Memorial Day weekend.

Now, rumors were circulated about the group, but they are fulfilling their promise. After first being told their permits were in order, the mayor of Sunland Park and his administration were flip-flopping, and their incompetence has threatened to put the brakes on the whole project—but it only delayed it 36 hours. They now have been cleared to resume the construction.

We know there is a crisis at the southern border. Madam Speaker, I thank Brian Kolfage and We Build the Wall for their selfless commitment to our great country.

It is too bad it has to come to this, but it is also inspiring, in a way, that citizens came forward to do the job of the U.S. Government and secure our sovereign border themselves.

This Congress should do better for our border security and for our American citizens.

NOW IS THE TIME FOR ACTION

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

Mr. CISNEROS. Madam Speaker, this past Wednesday, I met with a group of high school students from my district who started a local March for Our Lives chapter to talk about the gun epidemic in our country. Then, 2 days later, we had another mass shooting in Virginia Beach.

According to the Mass Shooting Tracker website, there have been over 181 mass shootings in the United States this year, with over 200 victims losing their lives.

I am proud that we finally passed commonsense gun legislation in this House that expanded background checks, which is something over 90 percent of the American people wanted, but we need to do more.

The shooting in Virginia Beach used both a silencer and a high-capacity magazine. We need legislation now to outlaw both of those items as well as automatic rifles. We need to allow the

Centers for Disease Control to study the gun epidemic in our country so we can find a solution.

But it is not just mass shootings that we need to address. Over two-thirds of all gun deaths in the United States are a result of suicides, and the number is rising. Over 20 veterans a day are committing suicide. We must also study firearm suicide and how it relates to mental health and how we can limit firearm access to those who are suffering.

We have a problem in our country, and it is not just going to go away. Now is the time for action. Too many lives are at stake.

HONORING MAUD BORUP

(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, the best gummy bears I have ever tasted are made by a company right in southern Minnesota.

Last week, I visited Le Center and toured Maud Borup, a 112-year-old wholesale confections company that specializes in gourmet candy, baking kits, food gifts, and more.

Maud Borup started as a woman-owned brick-and-mortar candy shop in St. Paul before women even had the right to vote. Today it is a wholesale company continuing to offer opportunities for women. In fact, 96 percent of the more than 100 employees are women.

Maud Borup's president, Christine Lantinen, was recently named the 2019 Minnesota Small Business Person of the Year. Christine is an Army vet and an entrepreneur who is making a difference in her community.

We had the opportunity to discuss regulatory issues, healthcare reform, trade, and how Federal policies are affecting small businesses in Minnesota.

Madam Speaker, I thank Christine and everyone at Maud Borup for being a valuable part of Minnesota.

HONORING CHARLES NORMAN SHAY

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

Ms. PINGREE. Madam Speaker, this week we recognize the 75th anniversary of D-Day, and we recognize a Mainer who helped to liberate France and then Europe from Nazi control in World War II during the invasion of Normandy.

Charles Norman Shay is a Penobscot Tribal elder and a decorated veteran of both World War II and the Korean war. He has received the Bronze Star, the Silver Star, and the Legion of Honor, making him the first Native American in Maine with that distinction.

Charles Norman Shay was drafted at 19 and served as a medic in the 16th Infantry Regiment, First Infantry Division. When he landed at Omaha Beach

in the first wave, it was his first time in combat. Armed with only his medical supplies, Mr. Shay charged Omaha Beach dozens of times, pulling struggling soldiers from the sea, bandaging wounds, making splints out of pieces of wood, or comforting soldiers through their final moments.

Mr. Shay makes a pilgrimage back to Normandy every year to remember his fellow soldiers, and at 94 years old, Mr. Shay is returning for the 75th anniversary of D-Day.

Mr. Shay is a hero to all Mainers, the Penobscot Nation, and all Americans. Our country is indebted to him.

□ 1945

A TRAITOR TO LIBERTY

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, what defines a traitor to America's liberty?

The Justice Department defines a traitor as a person, who owing allegiance to the United States, adheres to their enemies.

President Trump's 2016 campaign manager, Paul Manafort, fits that definition: a traitor.

Manafort proudly sought out multi-millions of dollars from the enemies of liberty to promote the pro-Russian anti-democratic ruler of Ukraine—President Viktor Yanukovych.

Yanukovych took his direct orders from Russian dictator Vladimir Putin who personally directed Russia's interference in the 2016 U.S. Presidential election.

When Ukrainian people rose up to take back their nation, Yanukovych, after killing his own countrymen, fled back to his master in Russia to hide out, looting countless millions that he stole from the Ukrainian people.

The real question for America is how could a U.S. citizen sell out liberty for dirty money from such dictators for whom liberty means nothing.

Mr. Manafort, Trump's campaign manager, is no stranger to criminal enterprise.

Just weeks ago, news broke out that Manafort got millions upon millions of dollars, auctioning off high-level Trump administration positions to a Chicago banker named Stephen Calk.

Madam Speaker, it is a fair question to ask: At what exact point in his sordid career did Manafort become a traitor to liberty? And, more importantly, who else is riding his traitorous coattails?

HONORING WILLIAM BRODISH AND HERBERT TERNER ON THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

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

Ms. SHERRILL. Madam Speaker, this week, we will commemorate the

75th anniversary of D-Day, and I rise to honor two of our New Jersey residents who participated in Operation Overlord.

William Brodish worked at Picatinny Arsenal for 3 years. He joined the Army and was assigned to the 27th Ordnance Bomb Disposal Squad.

On the morning of June 6, Private Brodish landed on Omaha Beach and got to work removing projectiles and rockets from the shoreline. He was only 22-years-old when he died on the beach as a German artillery projectile exploded over his position.

Herbert Terner enlisted in the Army in 1942, and on D-Day, he parachuted into Normandy with the 101st Airborne.

As a radio specialist, he alerted troops of landing positions, and he continued to fight after D-Day in the Battle of the Bulge, and, eventually, helped to liberate prisoners from the concentration camps.

I had the great honor of meeting Herb, now 98 years old and a resident of Montville, over Memorial Day weekend.

Tonight, I honor William, Herbert, and all the New Jersey residents who put their lives on the line to defend democracy and free Europe from the grasp of the Nazis and totalitarianism.

JOANNE REAGAN DANCE STUDIOS

(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. Madam Speaker, Joanne Reagan of Joanne Reagan Dance Studios in Cold Spring, New Jersey, celebrated her 50th year teaching dance over the weekend. She started training at only 8 years of age.

Joanne Reagan Dance Studios is founded on belief in the philosophy and mission to build character, discipline, and responsibility through the creative and performing arts.

They aim to give students the ammunition and the armor they need to pursue a professional career, if they desire to do so, or in whatever endeavor they choose to pursue in their lives.

Students are encouraged to aspire towards their own personal goals in a manner which celebrates the individual and promotes self-esteem, and it also promotes a positive body image.

I celebrate Joanne Reagan's service to our community and commend her for passing on these invaluable life skills to southern New Jersey's youth.

Madam Speaker, we are really lucky to have her.

HONORING THE SELFLESS HEROES OF THE OKLAHOMA STORMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. HOULAHAN). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. KEVIN HERN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous con-

sent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which 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 Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, the last 2 weeks have been brutal for much of America. Storms, tornadoes, and floodwaters have attacked our homes and our people.

I spent last week across the First District of Oklahoma, watching the waters rise and the homes and livelihoods of my community be destroyed. It was heart-wrenching.

Every day, I saw more families forced to evacuate, more homes take on water, more sinkholes open up, and roadways disappear under the flood. This disaster has reached every corner of my district and has permanently affected countless families.

For some, a lifetime of building a home was washed away in a matter of days. There are priceless photos that will never be recovered, neighborhoods that will never be the same, families who have lost everything.

We may have caught the attention of the Nation for a few days while tornadoes tore up our country and storms battered our homes, but now the water subsides, and the cameras turn off, but the damage remains. Our communities will be forever changed.

In times of war, there is an enemy. There is a target for our retribution. When foreign armies attacked Pearl Harbor, we had a swift response. There was somewhere to go, someone to fight.

When your people are attacked by nature, when it is flood waters destroying your home instead of armies, where do you turn?

In times of disaster, it is easy to shake your fist at God. It is natural to be angry and to turn that anger on the only being you think you can blame.

Instead, what I have seen in my community this week is faith, generosity, and the genuine love and care for our fellow man.

It is these moments of devastation when true character shines through. This is when heroes are made.

When everyone is running away from a problem or dangerous situation, who runs toward it?

Tonight, we are here to honor the selfless heroes of the storms, the men and women of our communities who showed true leadership and courage these last few weeks to keep our people safe and protect our families.

I am proud of Oklahomans and how they came together. I am humbled to have personally heard their stories.

Along with my colleagues, we will shine a light on the brave people whose sacrifices will forever have an impact on our districts.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA).