

After 77 years, his body was identified and finally sent back home to Louisiana earlier this year.

Mr. Speaker, our World War II veterans truly are America's Greatest Generation. It is because of the courageous acts of soldiers like William Ward and the sacrifices of sailors like Richard Watson that we are the country we are today.

We owe a tremendous debt to our World War II veterans.

I encourage everyone to thank these wonderful people when you see them and let them know that a grateful Nation has not forgotten what they did for us.

#### LET'S PUT SOME JUSTICE IN TRADE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, America's workers do not support the Trump-negotiated NAFTA-2 trade deal.

Just like the original NAFTA, the new NAFTA is half-baked, repackaged, and broken. It was not written to improve the lives of our working families in Ohio or in Mexico or in Central America. It was written to advance transnational corporate interests and the schemes of very wealthy elites.

In a country whose public and private sectors too often serve the interests of the rich and powerful and not the average person, this is the last thing the working people of Ohio and North America need, regardless of whether they work in the mills or toil in the fields.

The President's promise of higher wages and returning jobs is not to be believed. NAFTA cannot deliver for the working people unless it ensures the dignity of labor, of labor rights, and labor enforcement on this continent.

Our leaders must wake up to the human suffering these trade deals create, not only for our own citizens as their jobs are outsourced but, also, people who are exploited in Mexico and the Americas.

When transnational corporations crash together the economies of first- and third-world countries, without a second thought about the consequences, it is the working people who get crushed.

The ravages of NAFTA inflicted on the Americas and their workers are etched across America's communities. Far too many have been devastated by the outsourcing of factories, many left in economic ruin.

NAFTA was sold as the model of the modern integration of first-world and emerging-world economies. It was then replicated in Central America with the so-called CAFTA sweatshop deal, covering nations from which millions are now fleeing to our border.

When multinational corporate interests dominate negotiations and place a heavy thumb on the scales of economic justice for labor across the Americas,

trade with our closest neighbors is never a zero-sum game because too few control the levers of negotiating power.

It is no surprise that nearly a half a million migrants have been taken into custody at our southern border this year alone—half a million.

In the past, undocumented immigrants were overwhelmingly single men from Mexico, but that flow has changed. First, we experienced immigration from Mexico post NAFTA. There was a hemorrhage.

That has gone down in recent years, but now CAFTA, the gift of CAFTA, sees Central American families having become the new face of undocumented immigration.

These landless people, jobless people from the Americas live in fear.

As America exports our transnational-driven trade models, we knowingly rely upon the human suffering our economic policies inflict on the poor.

NAFTA and NAFTA-2 were always about cheap labor and bringing down the benefits of health and pension benefits for American workers.

Undocumented migrants arrive brutalized through trafficking channels. Indeed, one can easily see, in agriculture alone in the Americas, the exploitative model of slavery has simply morphed into a new serfdom under the present system.

Once in the United States, many become undocumented farm workers, and the Department of Agriculture estimates that about half of our Nation's farm workers are unauthorized, undocumented.

These workers face great hostility and black-market labor conditions repugnant to our values. This undocumented status makes workers especially vulnerable to abuse.

Is the answer to expand our migrant visa worker programs, the H-2A or H-2B visas? Absolutely not.

Take the tragedy of Santiago Cruz, a Mexican labor recruiter brutally murdered in a legal labor recruitment office in Monterrey, Mexico.

Santiago was communicating to his fellow Mexican workers who sought economic opportunity in America that they did not have to pay a coyote \$8,000 to get across the border—a crooked, lone coyote.

Twelve years after his death near the Mexican-U.S. border, Mexico has not prosecuted his murderer and our country has not raised a voice to get justice in his murder.

But the greatest injustice is the new NAFTA deal that fails to address the cancer of undocumented labor in the Americas, especially in the agriculture industry.

The current migrant worker system is widely abused by employers seeking a captive workforce. NAFTA-2 must include a comprehensive strategy to address continental labor, and agricultural immigration must be a part and central to it, not absent.

The continental enforcement of healthy working conditions and inte-

gration of enforceable labor laws must be central to NAFTA-2. It is not in it.

That is the ugly exploitation of America's industrialized and farm workers that we allow to continue.

How morally reprehensible is this?

I ask my colleagues to please take a look at our bill and include a labor secretariat in the new NAFTA deal. Let's put some justice in trade.

#### CONGRATULATING THE EDWARDSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Edwardsville High School's baseball team on their Class 4A State championship.

Edwardsville played Saint Charles North for the title last week, going into extra innings before the Tigers won it all 3-2, claiming their third State championship in school history and their first since 1998.

With a 37 win and 5 loss season record, Edwardsville came to the championship game ready to win. At the bottom of the seventh inning, Saint Charles had a 2-1 lead with the bases loaded and no outs.

Thanks to a double play, the Tigers tied the game 2-2 and sent the game into extra innings. In the top of the eighth inning, the Tigers stole second base and later laid down a bunt, which led to a close play at the plate, allowing the Tigers to score the winning run.

When the Tigers took the field that morning, Coach Tim Funkhouser had 699 career wins. After the game, he came home with number 700 and a State championship.

What a way to hit 700 wins in your career. I congratulate Coach Funkhouser and the entire Edwardsville Tiger baseball team on a fantastic season and a well-deserved win.

#### RECOGNIZING ADOPTION LAWYER ELLYN BULLOCK

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ellyn Bullock, a lawyer from Campaign, Illinois, who specializes in adoption. She has been nominated to be an Angels in Adoption honoree by the 2019 Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute.

Since 1999, Ellyn has finalized the adoptions of more than 1,800 children. More than half were in the Illinois foster care system and ultimately found permanent homes.

She has won the Catholic Charities Friend of Adoption award and has been recognized multiple times by associations for her advocacy of family values and adoptions outside the office.

Ellyn and her husband, David, are proud parents of three children: Kyle, Imy, and Charlie. They adopted Kyle

and Imy and have acted as guardians of another child.

A stable and permanent family is perhaps the most important thing in a child's developing life. Every day, we rely on people like Ellyn to unite families and improve lives. I applaud Ellyn for all of her hard work and for her fighting for families in the 13th District of Illinois.

#### ANTICS OF THE IRANIAN NAVY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. OLSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, this should come as no surprise, but the world's champion crybaby, the Islamic Republic of Iran, threw another hissy fit this week.

Their navy tried to hijack a British tanker with a Royal Navy escort. They admitted they were breaking international law because they demanded the ship drive itself into their waters to be boarded.

The Royal Navy frigate fired back with a salvo from a radio. They said: "Back off."

The Iranian babies put their boats at full speed, roaring back to Iran to cry on the Ayatollah's shoulder for their humiliation.

This has happened over and over. And I am very familiar with this region. I deployed there in the Navy for 6 months, from May of 1994 to November of 1994.

I was based on a small island called Masirah right off the shore of the United Arab Emirates. We would fly what is called a gulf transit 1,000 feet all around the Strait of Hormuz and the Persian Gulf to exercise our freedom of navigation.

This is not the first time these things have happened. The last attack happened right there where the baby is crying. Two months before that, off the map down there, four American tankers, at idle, sitting in dead water waiting to unload their cargo, were attacked by Iranian boats, damaged.

In the middle of the Persian Gulf, international airspace, right there near the Gulf of Oman, one of our airplanes was blown out of the sky by the Iranians.

That was an act of war.

Ours was an American military aircraft operating legally in international airspace over international waters.

The question is: Why are the insane Iranians becoming more insane? And that is because the Mullahs who have run their country now for 50 years know they are dying. And, like a dying animal, they are going to fight for their last breath of power.

They are dying because of America, the American energy revolution, started primarily and thriving in Texas and the Permian Basin.

Oil is their only source of money in the entire country of Iran. They have nothing else.

The Permian Basin, by itself, next year will produce more oil than every

country in the world except for Saudi Arabia.

We have many more shale plains across America: Barnett, Eagle Ford, Bakken, Marcellus—over and over and over.

□ 1045

They know we are putting them in the dumpsters of history. Uncle Sam is forcing the mullahs and the leaders of the military to learn new languages, new words to explain their demise, words like "good-bye," "ta-ta," "adieu," "adios," and "sayonara" to go with "khodahafez," which, in Farsi, means "good-bye."

I want to salute the people of Iran. The dark times are going to end quickly. You will be free from oppression from the leaders in your own country.

I would like to give a salute to the mullahs and the Iranian Navy and the military. Good-bye. Adios.

And that's just the way it is.

#### LET'S NOT RAISE THE MINIMUM WAGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. RUTHERFORD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle announced they will soon bring to the floor the Raise the Wage Act, a bill to increase the Federal minimum wage from \$7.25 an hour to \$15 an hour.

While supporters of this legislation have good intentions, the repercussions would spell disaster for our economy, for small businesses, and the very same low-wage workers who they intend to help. Nonpartisan estimates of the Raise the Wage Act expect it could cause up to 3.7 million people across the country to lose their jobs.

Mr. Speaker, that is almost as many people as in the entire State of Oklahoma, the entire State of Oklahoma unemployed.

Cities that have already imposed a \$15 minimum wage have been the first to see the negative effects of this initiative. Recently, the University of Washington conducted a study on the efficacy of Seattle's newly mandated \$15 minimum wage, and the results were very clear. Costs to low-wage workers in Seattle outweighed the benefits by 3-to-1, and the average low-wage worker lost \$125 a month.

While most of the discussion regarding the Federal minimum wage is focused on major metropolitan cities, what about the rural areas across the country where the cost of living is much lower? This bill would effectively eliminate small, rural businesses and skyrocket costs for goods and services.

Finally, let's look at who is currently making minimum wage in the U.S. Half are under the age of 25, and almost a quarter of them are teenagers. A \$15 minimum wage would threaten the job prospects of young folks who are looking to enter the

workforce for the first time, hoping to gain the skills needed to move ahead in a real career.

Over 80 percent of economists agree that a \$15 minimum wage would have a negative impact on youth employment.

Look, I cannot support a bill that is guaranteed to shutter business and lay off workers around the country. I hope that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle will reconsider this attempt to backtrack on the economic success of recent years and, instead, support bipartisan policies that will help all workers get ahead.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 49 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PETERS) at noon.

#### PRAYER

Dr. George S. Dillard, III, Peachtree City Christian Church, Peachtree City, Georgia, offered the following prayer:

Our Father, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the Great I Am, the maker of Heaven and Earth, let it be known today that You are God and that Your servants do all things at the command and leading of Your Word through Jesus the Christ, the son of the living God.

Hear me, Lord, hear me so that these people will know that You, Lord, are God and that You call them to turn their hearts to You.

Drive out the divisive ones, rebuke those who destroy the innocent, and remove those who delight in lies. Give wisdom, strength, and courage to those who seek unity, protect the innocent, and love the truth.

Lead us to be a people who seek freedom, liberty, and justice for all.

And let all of God's people say amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LOEBSACK) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LOEBSACK led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows: