

American cemetery tour in April of this year, which should be extremely enlightening and interesting.

John Wesley's mission statement is that they will promote unity and diversity within our church and our community.

I thank them for their commitment to this community. I thank them and congratulate them on 180 years. May God's blessing be upon them.

HONORING NELLA LARSEN

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, this is Women's History Month. I rise to recognize Nella Larsen, who was born in Chicago in 1891. Her mother was a Danish immigrant and her father an immigrant from the Danish West Indies, what is now known as the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Larsen attended school in all-White environments in Chicago until she moved to Nashville to attend high school. She later practiced nursing, served as a librarian in the New York Public Library, and, after resigning from that position, she began a literary career.

Her first novel, "Quicksand," won her a Harmon Foundation bronze medal. After the publication of her second novel, "Passing," in 1929, Larsen was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship, a first for an African American woman, establishing her as a premier novelist of the Harlem Renaissance.

She died in New York in 1964.

Her work explored the complex issues of racial identity and identification in her fiction. Though critics remain conflicted about her novels, "Quicksand" and "Passing," there can be no question that they are significant, groundbreaking American literary texts. She received a number of awards for her writing.

Along with her contemporary, novelist Zora Neale Hurston, Larsen is considered to be one of the most important female voices in the Harlem Renaissance. We remember her voice now.

HONORING VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS

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

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, Virginia Military Institute is world renowned for many achievements, but I rise today to recognize VMI for producing one of the highest numbers of Fulbright Scholars, nationally, for the 2019–2020 academic year. This world-renowned program seeks to improve cultural relationships through the exchange of students, faculty, and ideas.

The three bright individuals to receive this prestigious honor are Second Lieutenant Annika Tice, Colonel Howard Sanborn, and Colonel Geoff Jensen.

One of only 2,200 students who received a scholarship last year, Second Lieutenant Tice used her Fulbright to educate others and taught English in the Ivory Coast.

Colonel Sanborn, a professor of international studies and political science, used this opportunity to study legislative politics in Hong Kong.

Colonel Jensen, a professor of history, will conduct research in Madrid this coming summer.

Sanborn and Jensen were among only 470 faculty to receive a Fulbright distinction this year.

With more colleges and universities than nearly any other district in the country, I am proud that these three individuals exemplify the talent that the Sixth District attracts.

Congratulations to VMI on this noteworthy accomplishment.

RECOGNIZING THE WOUNDED WARRIOR PROGRAM

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Wounded Warrior Program, which is a bipartisan initiative that provides opportunities for injured veterans and servicemembers to continue their service to our country by working right here in the United States Congress.

I am proud to have passed legislation, supported by Republicans and Democrats, to expand the Wounded Warrior Program. By investing in these paid fellowships, we can expand job opportunities for veterans and bring, importantly, their critical insight to the work that we do right here in Congress.

For the past 2 years, I have had the distinct privilege of having a Wounded Warrior fellow, Danielle Stevens, in my office. Throughout her time in my office, she has served my district by advising me on important legislation and, very importantly, being an advocate for veterans in casework that she has been involved in, including veterans who lost earned benefits, had them taken away from them due to clerical errors. Danielle Stevens was able to work to get those benefits restored, changing the lives of those families.

Later this week, she will be leaving my office to continue her public service at the U.S. Marshals Service. I thank her for her service to our country. This is an example of the success of this program.

REMEMBERING COLONEL (RETIRED) RONALD LORD

(Mrs. LESKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great sadness over the passing of Colonel Ronald Lord from Goodyear, Arizona, a loving husband to Mayor Georgia Lord of the city of Goodyear, which is in my district. He

was a caring and kind father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, and he was loved by many.

While serving as a fighter pilot in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam war, he bravely fought against hostile North Vietnamese forces. Ron was an American hero, and we are eternally grateful for his service.

On behalf of the Arizona Eighth Congressional District, I extend my deepest condolences to Ron's family and loved ones as they mourn their loss.

CONGRATULATING SHAKOPEE HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING TEAM

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

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate the Shakopee High School wrestling team, who repeated as class 3A State champions for the second year in a row.

Congratulations to the wrestlers for the hard work that went into preparing for this perfect season. The dedication they have demonstrated is unparalleled, and their success is well deserved.

Also, thank you to the parents, the coaches, the teachers, and the mentors who dedicate their time, because they are equally committed to the team's success and future.

Congratulations to the team, and may they enjoy this moment. They have earned it.

JUNE MEDICAL SERVICES V. RUSSO

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

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remind my colleagues of what is at stake at the Supreme Court in coming weeks.

Yesterday, the Court began to hear arguments in a major abortion rights case, June Medical Services v. Russo.

If the Louisiana law in question goes into effect, only one clinic remains in the entire State. Only one physician would continue to provide abortion services to the 10,000 women who seek them every year. That outcome would deny thousands of women in Louisiana their constitutional protection: the protected right to access abortion care.

In 2016, the Court already decided that an identical case was unconstitutional. But since President Trump has added two conservative Justices to the Supreme Court, it is more important than ever for us to speak out about what is at stake, and I am proud to do that today.

The Court should not uphold the Louisiana law and should overturn it.

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RECOGNIZING BILL GAERTNER

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

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bill Gaertner for receiving the distinguished St. Dismas Award for his work through the Gatekeepers Re-Entry Program in Hagerstown, Maryland.

Gatekeepers is a program that addresses one of the top needs in our criminal justice system: support for returning citizens.

Today, 90 percent of incarcerated people get released into their own communities, but many struggle to find the resources and support to thrive.

A returning citizen himself, Bill was 70 years old when he was released from prison. He started the Gatekeepers organization when he realized the challenges those released from prison face as they reenter society.

Gatekeepers aims to provide a connection to resources so folks could be successful as they transition back into their communities.

We should all be working toward a more just criminal justice system.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Bill Gaertner on this much-deserved award for his work to support justice-impacted communities.

RECOGNIZING HEROISM OF ROBERT TARLETON AND EDWARD RYER

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

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the heroism of two New Jersey State troopers, Trooper Robert Tarleton and State Police Lieutenant Edward Ryer.

On March 2, Trooper Tarleton was stopped and talking with a driver on I-287 in Bridgewater, New Jersey, when a tractor-trailer ran off the road, hit a structure, and burst into flames.

Trooper Tarleton immediately ran toward the scene, where he met Lieutenant Ryer, who was off-duty but had stopped to help.

With no thought to their personal safety, they grabbed the incapacitated driver from the wreckage, dragging him to safety seconds before the truck exploded.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Trooper Tarleton and Lieutenant Ryer for their selfless actions that saved a man's life.

I also want to take a moment to recognize the everyday acts of heroism by our law enforcement officers that may not make the news or be captured on a body cam, as this one was.

We call them when we need help, and no matter how dangerous the situation, they always come. We are grateful.

TIME TO RAISE ENDOMETRIOSIS AWARENESS AND FUNDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MALINOWSKI). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentlewoman from Iowa (Ms. FINKENAUER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. FINKENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Iowa?

There was no objection.

Ms. FINKENAUER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent the great State of Iowa and the First Congressional District.

We have been getting a lot of great things done here in the House, working across the aisle and moving a lot of bipartisan bills forward since I got sworn in over a year ago. It has been an honor to get to represent my district and have its back every day.

In the middle of all of this, I happen to have gotten engaged a couple of months ago to my very kind and supportive fiancé, who is sitting up there in the gallery right now. He has been there through so much of it, and I am grateful every day.

You see, we are very much looking forward to one day starting our life together and are talking about raising a family and doing it in Iowa and how much that means to us.

So it would surprise most folks to know that just about 4 weeks ago, on a Friday after votes, I was back where I stay in D.C., sitting on my bed, doubled over in pain, googling hysterectomies.

It was a pain familiar to me, stabbing in my lower left abdomen, and a tight pain like two fists clenched together in a vise grip in my lower back.

I know this pain well because I have been experiencing it intermittently for over the past decade because I have a condition called endometriosis. I have had this most of my adult life.

I was diagnosed at a young age, luckily, at the early age of 18. See, a lot of women don't get an accurate diagnosis until much later in life.

Endometriosis is a very painful condition where the tissue that normally lines the uterus grows outside and can even attach to organs and nerves. Endometriosis is also the number one cause of hysterectomies for women ages 30 to 35.

I have already had two surgeries, laparoscopies, where they went in and cut off or burnt off the tissue. I have white-knuckled my way through more flights, events, and days knocking on doors than I can count.

There are so many women out there who have been told that the stabbing pain in your lower left abdomen is nor-

mal, or they are told that the tightness in their lower back that they are doubled over with in their beds is normal, but none of that is normal.

On this particular day, 4 weeks ago, I felt like I had enough. So I sat there, frustrated at the prospect of more delays in the airport in severe pain. I was looking at some of the most extreme options that are out there that would mean I couldn't even have children.

And to be honest with you, I just got frustrated because it shouldn't be this hard. It should be more well known, and there should be more options for treatment.

As I was looking up hysterectomies, I came across a place called the Endometriosis Foundation of America, and their website was full of information, some that I didn't even know as somebody who has been living with this for over 10 years, like the fact that endometriosis affects 1 in 10 women worldwide and an estimated 7 to 10 million in the United States alone, or that it is the leading cause of infertility, but there is no known cure.

You see, when I was looking up hysterectomies, the reason there are not more options, or options are slow to come by is because it is also one of the least-funded diseases and conditions by Congress, by the National Institutes of Health.

So once I decided to start talking about this, the number of people, whether it is their staff who has it, or their sister who has it, or possibly somebody they work with every day, or people they have met on the campaign, I mean, it just goes on and on, the number of people this touched, the women who have it and the men and women who love them.

I was also reminded, as I decided to look into this, how lucky I am. You see, I am lucky that I had a mom who believed me, who believed my pain, and good health insurance from my dad's union, where we could go to doctor after doctor after doctor until finally somebody said: "Hey, she might have this. We better take a look at it." That is when, again, I was able to be diagnosed.

I am lucky to have great support from my staff and others. But there are so many women across the United States who don't have that support.

When I decided to talk about this just a few weeks ago, I was actually getting my hair trimmed, and my hairdresser heard me say the word "endometriosis." She looked at me, and she said: Do you have it?

I said: Yes, I have it.

And she said: Well, right now, I am feeling like I am being stabbed in my lower left abdomen.

I said: Yes, I know that pain.

She was working three jobs, and she is dealing with it every day. It is something where she doesn't have the luxury to not show up. Many women don't. You just push through it, and you get through that pain day in and day out.